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Hafa Adai!

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75¢

$30M eyed to bury power lines

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has submitted for consideration to the Federal Emergency Management Agency a $30-million plan for an underground power system in key areas on Saipan and Tinian.

At the CUC board meeting last Tuesday, CEC executive director Gary P. Camacho said his office, with the assistance of the CUC Power Transmission and Distribution Division, prepared the plan as part

See $30M on Page 4

Govt, CHC, CPA owe CUC $51.2M

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As of last week, the CNMI central government, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and the Commonwealth Ports Authority owe the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. a total of $51.2 million.

Magofna

CUC acting chief financial officer Corina Magofna disclosed at the CUC board meeting last Tuesday that the central government owes $6,133,067, CHCC $27,412,615, and CPA $17,662,237—a total of $51,207,919 in receivables.

Magofna said the central government is past due for 12 months,

See GOVT on Page 4

Two-pronged tactic on labor issues

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is supporting a legislative fix on the CNMI labor and immigration issues while at the same time tapping its White House connections in pushing for improved immigration status for long-term foreign workers in the Commonwealth.

"We're doing both legislative and administrative fix [to the CNMI's work-related problems]. We know the White House's importance, we know that they are on board with

See TACTIC on Page 4

ASH WEDNESDAY
Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, left, paints a cross in ash on the forehead of a parishioner in yesterday's observance of Ash Wednesday at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa. Ash Wednesday is a Christian holy day of fasting and prayer that also marks the start of the Lenten season.
JON PEREZ

Cabinet being finalized

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is narrowing its list of Cabinet appointees, assuring that each appointment or re-appointment "has been carefully thought of."

Mark Rabauliman (Commerce), Robert Hunter (Community and Cultural Affairs), Vincent Attao (Corrections), Clyde Norita (Fire and Emergency Medical Services), Vicky Benavente (Labor), Anthony Benavente (Lands and Natural Resources), Marianne Teregeyo (Public Lands), and Robert Guerrero (Public Safety) were retained as Cabinet members.

Their names have already been submitted to the Senate so the Executive Appointments and Government

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INSIDE

ASIA
Pakistan has arrested dozens of suspects blamed for the suicide bombing in Kashmir.

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FOCUS
At least 23 people in Alabama, ranging from 6 to 89 years old, died in Monday's tornado.

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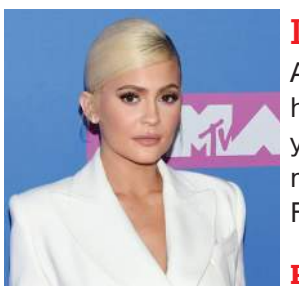

LIFE & STYLE
At 21, Kylie Jenner has been named the youngest-ever, self-made billionaire by Forbes.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

MHS Glee Club grabs gold at Guam festival

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas High School Glee Club won gold at the annual Tumon Bay Music Festival in Guam last week.

Led by director Clarisse C. Torio, the MHS Glee Club bested 12 schools and won gold at the TBMF's choral festival that took place from Feb. 28 to March 1, 2019.

The club consists of 21 members, 13 of whom are girls and eight are boys.

"We had a variety of songs in our repertoire," Torio told *Saipan Tribune*. The group performed *Rise Up* by Andra Day as arranged by alumni Miguel Manual and Leonard Manuel, *Ave Maria* composed by Franz Biebl, *Hallelujah* as arranged by popular acapella group Pentatonix, and *One Short Day* from the Broadway musical *Wicked* with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz and arranged by former director Paul Dujua.

"Finding out that we won gold in the choral festival was the most amazing feeling ever," Torio said, comparing it to a weight being lifted off their shoulders.

"When I went up... to receive our plaque, I couldn't help but tear up a bit," she said.

MHS principal Cherlyn Cabrera said: "We are so proud of our students and it shows their hard work. They really developed their talent and we are just so thankful for them."

"For some of the students, [participating and winning in the TBMF] was really a life-changing experience," she said.

Legislature honors USCG's Igisomar

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

KEVIN CALIBO

U.S Coast Guard Capt. Christopher Chase, third right, joins the family of Lt. Commander Christine Igisomar in receiving a resolution commending her years of service to the country in yesterday's presentation at the House chamber.

The CNMI Legislature honored U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Commander Christine T. igisomar yesterday with a resolution for her service in the U.S. Armed Forces' branch that defends the country's coast and enforces maritime law.

Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) introduced House Resolution 20-9 that was also with concurrence from the 20th Senate when now Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios was the Senate president.

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam commander Capt. Christopher Chase, who accepted the resolution on Igisomar's behalf, said that Igisomar could be the first Chamorro female to earn the lieutenant commander rank, the highest so far for a CNMI native. "We're pretty sure she is going to be the first female Chamorro LCdr. in the Coast Guard, but we're still looking into that. But, to advance to that rank, is a first for the CNMI people."

Blanco said that the Legislature found out that Igisomar has not been commended yet for her efforts after returning to the CNMI last year to recruit residents to the USCG Academy. "H.R. 20-9 is to honor [Igisomar] for her designation as the recipient of the federal Asian-Pacific Council Military meritorious service award."

"[She] also has a plethora of accomplishments and accolades for her stellar leadership. The Legislature honors individuals who have shown commitment to serving our country. She has promoted diversity and provided equal employment opportunities to our youth to the federal workforce."

He added that H.R. 20-9 is a testament of her accomplishments so that future generations may know of her work, and admire her character and determination to bring the greater good to all.

Igisomar's mom, Connie Torres, thanked everyone who made it possible for the resolution. "Thank you also Capt. [Christopher] Chase for accepting it. It is an honor for you to be here."

"On behalf of Christine and the entire CNMI, thank you. I'm so happy our Legislature and the people of the CNMI are proud of what she has done to our community. Now they are checking if she's the first female Chamorro that earned the highest rank in the Coast Guard."

Chase thanked Igisomar's family for allowing him to receive the commendation on behalf of the Saipan native. "It's an honor to accept this on behalf of Christine. She's an outstanding representative of the U.S. Coast Guard."

"But, more importantly, as the representative of the CNMI and the Chamorro people. She's an amazing woman, doing great things for the U.S. Coast Guard. She continues to recruit more Chamorros to our small service."

He added that he knows that Igisomar is looking forward to hanging the commendation on her wall. "She's in Virginia right now and getting her postgraduate…in human resources. I'm just down in Guam.

"She has done amazing things in Guam and the CNMI to recruit young Chamorros to the Coast Guard, specifically for the academy where she also graduated from. In fact, there are three CNMI folks getting their physical in Guam as part of their application due to her efforts."

Japanese group turns over $3K donation

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, center, poses with members of the Japanese Youth Memorial Association Friday morning.

The Saipan Mayor's Office received last week a donation from a group of Japanese students intended for Super Typhoon Yutu recovery.

Mayor David M. Apatang received last Friday $3,000 from a Tokyo, Japan-based non-profit organization called the Japan Youth Memorial Association.

While the group did not disclose what exactly was done to raise the funds, a statement from the organization noted that they raised the funds over the last four months.

"JYMA strongly wishes that their effort would demonstrate the sympathy and friendship of the people of Japan and strengthen the ties between Japan and the Marianas again that was once weakened due to the declining numbers of the Japanese visitors in the last few decades," the organization's statement said.

Apatang assured that the donation would be put to good use, such as funding projects that would beautify the island.

"I want to thank [JYMA]," said Apatang. "This group has been here many times," adding that this is also the same organization that archaeologically processes human remains believed to be Japanese imperial soldiers from World War II.

"Every time they come, they give contributions and assistance to the Saipan Mayor's Office," he said.

"We use part of it on Japanese monuments here while we also set some of it aside for projects we need to do," he said, adding that the additional funds also help the office when there are Japanese exchange students on island.

After dropping by the Saipan Mayor's Office, the group headed to the Tinian Mayor's Office in the afternoon and also repaired a monument they erected on the island in 1971, which had reportedly been "long forgotten" and has lost its plaques that had words comforting the souls of war victims.

Bench warrant out for man who had reportedly fled

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A bench warrant has been issued for a man who is believed to have fled Saipan after he failed to show up in court to face charges of theft.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto Naraja issued Monday the bench warrant of $5,000 for the arrest of Aris Maderal Olivos, 42.

Olivos failed to appear for his arraignment last March 4. Multiple sources said that Olivos had left the island back in February after he received a penal summons that was personally delivered to him.

Olivos allegedly robbed the Saipan Vegas Golf Resort and Slot Club of over $20,000 back in June 2018.

It is believed that Olivos used to work at the Saipan Vegas Golf Resort and Slot Club, but the establishment has yet to confirm this with the *Saipan Tribune*.

The Commonwealth, through acting chief prosecutor Heather Barcinas, asked the court to issue the bench warrant.

According to court information, on or between May 27, 2018, and June 1, 2018, Olivos allegedly stole approximately $20,697.36 in vouchers and U.S. currency from Saipan Vegas Golf Resort & Slot Club in Chalan Laulau.

As the property stolen has a value of more than $20,000, the theft charge is punishable by a maximum 10 years imprisonment.

CUC BOARD MEETING

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair Miranda V. Manglona, extreme left, presides over a meeting Tuesday in which they discussed the controversial emergency procurement for a generator set for Rota, among other issues. Some lawmakers led by Rep. Edwin Propst and Sen. Paul A. Manglona attended the meeting.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

2 plead not guilty in 'ice' case

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The two men who were arrested at the same house where methamphetamine or "ice" was allegedly being dispensed last Feb. 22 have pleaded not guilty to the allegations against them.

Both Rui Jin Huang 46, and Zhao Xin Zhu. 40, have been charged with possession of a controlled substance and trafficking of a controlled substance—allegations that they've denied.

Huang and Zhu were arrested on Feb. 22, 2019, following a sting operation in Chinatown, during which Drug Enforcement Task Force officers uncovered what seemed to be a meth dispensary and seized nearly $9,000 worth of methamphetamine hydrochloride, drug paraphernalia, digital scales, and packaging material.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho imposed a bail of $100,000 on both men on Feb. 22.

According to court documents, Huang, better known as "Brother," was reportedly actively distributing "ice" to customers on Saipan and is known to be one of the main sources of methamphetamine. Zhu is reportedly the deliveryman of the controlled substance.

A cooperating defendant assisted law enforcement in conducting a monitored and recorded purchase from Huang.

On Feb. 21 at 9:40am, task force personnel met with the cooperating defendant to prepare for the operation to buy meth from Huang.

At around 9:53am, task force officers monitored a phone conversation between the cooperating defendant and Huang, where they agreed to meet at an abandoned carwash in Garapan. Task force officers gave the cooperating defendant $1,400 to buy 2 grams of meth from Huang.

They equipped the cooperating defendant with a wire and recording device to be used in the transaction.

At about 10:13am, task force officers observed a green Toyota Corolla park along the street directly south of the abandoned carwash. The man who exited the car was described as a tall and skinny Asian male dressed in black and was identified later as Huang.

Huang was seen entering the cooperating defendant's car where the transaction was made.

Later, task force officers met with the cooperating defendant and got from him a small clear plastic baggie that contained a crystalline substance, the recording device, and the $300 that was unused.

The crystalline substance later tested positive for the presence of methamphetamine.

The task force surveillance teams then followed Huang's vehicle to a compound in Chinatown where he and Zhu were arrested.

Guam Energy Office gets $75K

The Guam Energy Office was awarded a competitive grant in the amount of $75,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop an EnergySmart Schools Program that establishes energy management practices for up to four K-12 facilities in Guam.

GEO has identified the Guam Power Authority as the project's technical assistance provider. Competitive funding will be used to support the following:

1. In-depth energy audits at participating schools;
2. The development of site-specific recommendations for building upgrades;
3. The development of curriculum and student engagement services;
4. An EnergySmart conference at the project conclusion; and
5. Training activities for attendees of the EnergySmart Conference

With GPA's completion of energy audits on 39 Guam Department of Education schools, the current two-year award period will focus on conducting energy audits in the private schools on island.

Solicitation letters will be sent out to schools with details on participation requirements and terms and conditions, as well as information on participation commitments. ***(PR)***

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Jury trial set for alleged sex offender

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A jury trial has been set for a man who allegedly molested a minor on the island of Rota.

Lazaro H. Guillermo, 25, is set to face jury trial on July 8, 2019. Guillermo is accused of entering a home on Rota and molesting a then-17-year-old girl. A pre-trial conference is scheduled for June 20 at 1:30pm

However, Guillermo's lawyer, Janet King, told the court that the Office of the Attorney General has offered Guillermo a plea deal.

Naraja said if Guillermo decides to accept the plea offer, a status conference will be held on April 8 at 9:30am.

Guillermo is facing charges of burglary, sexual assault in the second degree, and disturbing the peace. He remains in custody of the Department of Corrections.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the Rota Department of Public Safety received a call about a sexual assault of a minor in Sinapalo back in June 2018.

Police learned that the victim, a 17-year-old girl, was an off-island guest of a family over the weekend.

Investigation revealed that the alleged perpetrator, Guillermo, is a friend of the family but does not stay in that house.

Guillermo was arrested that same morning at a nearby house.

The victim told police that she woke up to someone touching her privates in the early morning of Sunday as she was sleeping on a couch in a bedroom with another female on a bed with a baby.

The victim allegedly recognized Guillermo but she did not scream for help, afraid that he might hurt her and the two others in the room. It was only when Guillermo left the bedroom that the victim told the other woman in the room about what had happened.

The other female told police that she actually saw Guillermo enter the room and touch the victim's privates but that she was also scared to say anything as the suspect may hurt her.

During the police interview, Guillermo allegedly admitted breaking into the house through the window and touching the girl.

Guillermo said he left the bedroom when the witness told him to leave.

Based on DPS records, Guillermo is a tier-1 sex offender in Guam.

Guillermo reports to DPS Rota once a year about where he lives.

TACTIC

From Page 1

this," said Torres during a press briefing last Tuesday at the Office of the Governor's conference room.

"For long-term status, we really need a legislative fix. It is not something where we will wake up someday and it will just happen. Obviously, anything with immigration is not just [an issue] with this [Trump] administration. It has been an issue with every administration," he said.

Torres just returned from Washington, D.C., where he led a CNMI delegation that attended legislative hearings in the U.S Congress and met with federal officials on workforce-related issues in the CNMI—the removal of the Philippines from the H-2B visa program and termination of the CNMI parole program.

However, the administration's efforts of trying to lift the one-year ban on Filipino skilled workers from the H-2B visa program could hit a snag after the Philippines' Department of Labor and Employment came out with a plan for a 90-percent cut in overseas deployment for construction workers.

Construction workers are also needed in the Philippines to help the "Build, Build, Build" programs of the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte. Chinese workers have so far flooded the Philippines to compensate for the lack of local skilled workers.

Torres is pinning his hopes on the two bills—H.R. 559 and 560—that were introduced by Delegate Grergorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) in the U.S. House of Representatives to solve the labor woes of the Commonwealth.

"I'm just happy that there's legislation on board, saying that we acknowledge long-term [workers] and that we are pushing for it [improved status]. We have been pushing for it since day 1," said Torres.

H.R. 559 or the Northern Mariana Islands Long-Term Legal Residents Relief Act and H.R. 560 or the NMI Residents Relief Act. H.R. 559 hopes to address the issue of legal workers under the parole program, while H.R. 560 aims to give improved status to long-term guest workers.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres briefs reporters during a news briefing last Tuesday at the Office of the Governor's conference room.

JON PEREZ

NMI's concerns

Torres said the work of Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente has also helped them push their cause. "I just want to commend Secretary Benavente. Since she got on board we [have] a better communication not just with Dr. [David] Gootnick and the [U.S. Government Accountability Office] but also with the federal [Department of Labor]."

Torres said Benavente made sure the data they presented were accurate, like the availability of jobs and job vacancies. "Also, the number of U.S. workers compared to nonresidents and the investment that are coming in. Those question are really important to begin with."

"We are short of U.S. workers. The number that we have is 52 percent U.S. workers and 48 percent contract [foreign] workers. We're trying to bring that information. That's why [Secretary] Vicky [Benavente] was also there.

He added that House members Rob Bishop (R-UT), Delegate Amata Radewagen (R-AS), and Resident Commissioner Jennifer Gonzales Colon (R-PR) know the CNMI's situation, which is why they immediately got on board in supporting both of Sablan's bills—H.R. 559 and 560.

"Only three people in the committee have been in the CNMI—Radewagen, Bishop, and Gonzales-Colon. That's why those who have been here, it is easy for them to support our cause and Kilili's bill because they see the difference and they saw our need."

$30M

From Page 1

of its efforts to make the system resilient.

On Saipan, Camacho said, the proposed underground network would primarily benefit the hospital, the airport, and Garapan. It will also protect the power lines going to the CNMI Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office and the CNMI Office of the Governor.

On Tinian, Camacho said, the underground system would protect the Tinian clinic and airport.

"We are at a conceptual planning stage," he said.

When asked, Camacho said the $30 million will all be coming from FEMA.

And since the plan is still on the conceptual stage, there's still a number of steps to be taken, Camacho said, but FEMA has agreed that it is critically important for the underground power lines to these vital areas.

And "although all of these [areas] might not be selected, it's whatever the $30-million [plan can accommodate] in the event we're successful," he said.

Camacho said they have to keep Tinian always in consideration to anything Saipan acquires under these power restoration efforts.

He said the proposal that they submitted to FEMA for long-term storm mitigation covers both Saipan and Tinian.

"This proposal is something that is obviously competitive," he added. "So, we we'll see if we can get some of these [projects]. However, FEMA did reference that this underground power would really help the CNMI overall and everybody could benefit."

Right now, Camacho said, they are trying to harden the power system lines from the Power Plant 1 in Lower Base and Power Plant 4 in Puerto Rico to the Commonwealth Health Center area.

"We rebuilt [these areas] twice in the last two large typhoons—Soudelor and Yutu," he added.

Camacho said a lot of concrete power poles are now on the ground for installation from the Kiya substation to the airport— the area that was being rebuilt since Typhoon Soudelor in 2015.

Camacho said the underground power system is the best thing for the CNMI, but it would also help FEMA, so that it won't have to keep coming back and rebuilding each time there is a typhoon.

He said the idea is to get the hospital and the airport hooked with power immediately, along with the water wells in that area, so the island can receive 24-hour support from emergency planes with needed materials and supplies.

Camacho disclosed that the plan really comes out to $90 million in all, but that they were informed the CNMI can only apply for $30 million.

"So, we need to prioritize which one. …But by the same token, this also takes FEMA's concerns about having to come back and continue re-investing in the CNMI. This will really help that and possibly eliminate that problem," he added.

GOVT

From Page 1

CHCC for four years, and CPA for five months.

With respect to the $17.8 million receivable from CPA, under a 40-year lease agreement, $10 million will be used to offset CUC's access to 46 wells on CPA property, she said.

CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho said he recently attended a meeting with CPA to discuss outstanding concerns with their accounts payable.

Camacho said the intent was also to finalize the lease agreement with the CPA board of directors that would provide CUC control and access to the 46 wells on CPA property for 40 years in exchange for $10 million in outstanding water charges.

Camacho also reported that he, CUC financial account manager Betty Terlaje, and CUC board vice chair Weston Deleon Guerrero recently attended a meeting at CHCC about their past due.

He said the purpose of the meeting was to come to an accommodation on the outstanding accounts payable CHCC owes CUC totaling $26 million, including penalties.

He said CHCC will only pay $71,000 each month, even though they are billed about $400,000 a month.

Camacho said CHCC's chief financial officer indicated that they did include the cost of CUC services in their latest rate change.

He said the CHCC chief financial officer, however, informed them that the rate portion will not be used for utilities.

CABINET

From Page 1

Investigations Committee, chaired by Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian), could begin their confirmation hearings.

Only Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson was not on the list. The administration said the announcement and submission of the name of the person who would be replacing her will be made soon.

In a statement, press secretary Kevin Bautista touted the accomplishments and economic gains the administration has achieved in the last three years since Gov. Eloy S. Inos took office and after Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres took over after the death of the latter. Torres won a fresh four-year mandate with former Senate President Arnold I. Palacios as lieutenant governor.

"Over the last few years of the [administration], we had four successive years of economic growth, which translated into new, better-paying jobs for people in government and in the private sector and an assurance of the governor and lieutenant governor's commitment to our retirees and their families," Bautista said.

Dems want detailed info on how CEC handles ballots

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Mariana Islands Democratic Party asked the Commonwealth Election Commission yesterday for detailed steps on how ballot boxes for the March 23 special election will be handled and written assurances that they will be handled "properly."

In a letter to CEC executive director Julita Villagomez, party chair Nola Kileleman Hix said that CNMI laws and regulations require that the ballots should never be left unattended and should always be in the presence of at least two commissioners and observers.

Also, ballot boxes must only be received by the CEC executive director or her designee, Hix said, and must be "sealed and opened in such a fashion to protect the integrity and sanctity of the election process."

She said they were never able to confirm compliance with these rules at the 2018 November general election.

"Indeed, the CEC failed or refused to provide us with a detailed step-by-step timetable of actions taken and pertinent events following the close of polls on election night," Hix said.

When asked about the letter, Villagomez said she has not seen it yet and that she is going to read it today, Thursday.

However, in response to one of the issues raised in Hix's letter, Villagomez said no tabulation machine will be used during the special election because the votes will be manually counted.

On the tabulation and reporting of election results, Hix noted that CNMI election law requires that the CEC report election results at the sub-precinct level. She said this was not done at the Nov. 13 general election.

"It is imperative that votes in the upcoming special election be tabulated and reported by sub-precinct as required by law," Hix said.

The special election is only for voters of Precinct 3, which has two sub-precincts—Garapan (3-B) and Oleai/San Jose(3-A).

With respect to the handling of absentee ballots, Hix said they expect strict compliance with the procedures of the election law and regulations. She said return envelopes for absentee ballots must first be sorted by the sub-precinct of the absentee voter prior to opening and segregation for counting.

As for early voting, Hix alleged inadequate controls and documentation in the November general election, despite the weeklong process.

"During our review, it was impossible to determine how many persons voted each day in each precinct and sub-precinct," she said.

As voter rosters are marked to identify each person receiving and casting a ballot, the fact and date of early voting needs to be clearly marked on the roster, Hix said.

She said CEC should maintain a tally sheet indicating the number of early voters (by precinct and sub-precinct) who cast ballots each day, and release a copy of the tally sheet to the public at the close of early voting each day.

On blank ballots, Hix asked that they be informed immediately regarding the number of ballots ordered for the special election, when and how they will be received, and the control procedures to be used to verify the quantity, secure the blank ballots, and control the chain of custody from receipt through the conclusion of the election and announcement of results, along with post-election preservation and safekeeping.

She pointed out that there were 18,979 registered voters in the November general election, and that they learned during their investigation that a total of 23,600 ballots were ordered for that election.

She said the number of ordered ballots, which is nearly 25 percent higher than the number of registered voters, far exceeds what possibly could actually be needed under any realistic election scenario.

"Additionally, the documentation to account for all these ballots was wholly inadequate, and precinct reconciliations were often missing," Hix said.

Regarding tabulation machines, she said they assume that only one tabulation machine will be required for the special election, given that only one precinct is involved.

"Please identify for us which machine will be used and set a date and time prior to the election for public testing of the operation and accuracy of the machine," Hix asked Villagomez.

To this date, Hix said, it is not clear how the ballots in the November general election were counted.

She said they cannot overstate the importance for CEC to do "a better job this time around."

"We expect and look forward to working with you to achieve, an efficient, free, fair, transparent, and honest special election," Hix told Villagomez.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres set the March 23 special election after the death of representative Francisco D. Dela Cruz last January.

This election has four candidates—former representative Donald Cabrera Barcinas of the Democratic Party, Marco Taisakan Peter of the Republican Party, and independent candidates David Castro Sablan and Mariano DLG Fajardo.

OWWA processed over 2,500 members

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Together with the Philippine Consulate General of Agana, Guam, the Philippine Overseas Workers Welfare Administration ended Tuesday its consular outreach at the Kristo Rai Parish Social Hall, with OWWA processing over 2,500 applications.

OWWA representative Evelyn Llanes told *Saipan Tribune* last Tuesday evening that they were able to process 2,517 OWWA member applications, including renewals and enrollments.

"The trip was very fruitful. Besides being able to process over 2,500 applicants, we were also able to advise others who had problems," she said.

According to Llanes, those who were not able to have their OWWA membership renewed may do so online through their phone application called the OWWA app. It is available for download in both the Google Playstore and the Apple App Store.

Besides the 2,517 OWWA applications, the Philippine Consulate General was able to execute 473 consular transactions in all.

According to Philippine Consul to Guam Mark Francis Hamoy, the first ever consular outreach program for 2019 on Saipan was able to process 426 passport renewal applications, 26 notarial services, 10 reports of birth, three reports of marriage, and eight petitions for dual citizenships.

Hamoy noted that their expected target of only 420 passport renewals was surpassed because of those who were willing to wait to get their documents processed in place of those who did not show up to their appointments.

"Our target per day [was] 140 passport renewal applicants," Hamoy said. "We went beyond that."

"Usually, when there are substitute applicants for those who did not show up to their appointments, they are unable to fill up the remaining slots for the consular mission," Hamoy added.

Besides that, he further noted that there were only three applications for lost passports.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-006

KAGMAN WATERLINE AND BOOSTER STATION REHABILITATION

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Kagman Waterline and Booster Station Rehabilitation on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, on the installation of a new booster station to replace the existing Kumoi pump station. The work also includes and connection of a new 8-inch PVC transmission line and a new 6-inch PVC distribution line complete with all necessary valves, fittings, and appurtenances. It will also involve the rehabilitation of the existing deep well KG-131 and the reconnection of all customers onto new or existing waterlines within the project area. The Contractor shall complete the work in accordance with the plans, specifications and terms of the contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

*CUC requires the Project to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of award of contract.*

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **February 28, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Conference Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk or USB Drive in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-19-006- Kagman Waterline and Booster Station Rehabilitation"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 21, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States, Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 7, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, at email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to LCDR Travis Spaeth, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer at email travis.spaeth@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant at email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

EMERGENCY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-19-013

AGINGAN PRIMARY SCREEN PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified vendors for the attainment of a Primary Screen for the Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant at CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-work will be emailed to all registered prospective proposers email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

One (1) original and four (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk or USB Drive in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-19-013, Agingan Primary Screen Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **March 21, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 7, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, P.E., Senior Engineer for Water/Wastewater at email address westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Technician, Senior at email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Phase 1 of Isa Villas on target for April 30 opening

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The first phase of Isa Villas on Capital Hill is on target for its scheduled April 30 opening and will be ready to welcome 27 families that can move in the following month.

Pacific Rim Land Development LLC, which is developing the project under the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit project of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, recently held a topping off ceremony for the project, which it is developing with the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

According to online definitions, topping out or topping off, is a builders' rite traditionally held when the last beam (or its equivalent) is placed atop a structure during its construction.

Isa Villas project manager Kathleen David of Pacific Rim Land Development LLC said that, despite some challenges, they are on track to complete the project by the end of April.

"A little over a year ago, this was just a piece of vacant land, now we are nearing completion," she said.

David conceded that, similar to other projects, Pacific Rim also experienced some hurdles along the way. "But rain or shine, we are here. We managed to pull through and worked as a team," she added.

The 27-unit Isa Villas will be ready for new occupants by May of this year. JON PEREZ

That included worker issues, as they were also affected by the decision of U.S. Department of Homeland Security to remove the eligibility of Philippine workers from the H-2B visa program, which the CNMI and Guam use to get laborers in the construction trade.

David said Super Typhoon Yutu in late October last year also contributed some delays.

"But, since our company has a lot of resources and relationship with other subcontractors, they helped us in completing the project. The work was seven days a week and 12 hours a day in two shifts," added David.

With the project's impending completion, tenants can start moving in by April and should already be occupying the units by the end of May, she said.

David assured that Pacific Rim prioritized local skilled workers here and in Guam before getting the services of foreigners. Forty percent of the workers for the $13-million project were from Guam. There are still H-2B workers but they had to leave once their visas expire.

Next phase

With the first phase of the project almost done, Pacific Rim could move on with Phase 2, which will be just a stone's throw away, said company president Keith Stewart.

"Now, we're moving forward with Phase 2. This is the start of what we plan to do to help the housing issues here in the CNMI. Phase 2 will have four buildings and we're still finalizing the number of units. The property overall will have an approximate number of over 100 units."

He said the first phase involved 27 units and that there has been tremendous interest for them.

He added that Isa Villas will not only help ease the CNMI's housing shortage but also feature typhoon-resilient homes. "It's not just getting a temporary relief in the housing need, but having quality housing where the applicants will feel safe, in case another strong typhoon comes."

"We've built a property building with typhoon shutters. We've done everything in the project to make sure all are safe, even with flying debris. Typhoons will happen again but the product quality is sustainable and long-term," Stewart added.

Isa Villas property manager Manuela Cruz said they will be offering freebies and other incentives. Tenants can choose between three- and four-bedroom units and all units are semi-furnished with solar power heaters.

"The first residents will be given a free washer and dryer. More incentives will be given as the time comes."

He said the three-bedroom unit can fit up to six persons.

Rental rates have not been published yet.

Commonwealth Zoning Board
(Zoning Office)
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Zoning Officer

The Zoning Office is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Zoning Officer. This is a full-time positions on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Duties and Responsibilities: Process permit applications including reviewing applications for compliance, tracking timelines and public notice requirements, coordinating interagency consultations, and preparing written recommendations; Conduct field surveys and inspections for compliance with the Zoning Law and to collect land use information; Educate and inform the public and applicants about the zoning program and permit requirements; Gather information to update the GIS; Maintain detailed records of all actions, using paper and electronic media; Update permit information on the database; Other duties as assigned.

Minimum Requirements: Graduation from an accredited two-year college or university with an AA Degree. The following professional experience may substitute for the AA Degree: A minimum of 3 years of experience in any combination of land use planning, zoning, public administration, public health, business management, public policy, natural resource management, environmental management, land management, or related field; Proficiency with office software including MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook Explorer. Other desired experiences include ability to drive a stick-shift car and to walk into construction sites and across rough terrain; Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing; Ability to work flexible hours, including some evenings and weekends; Ability to speak in Chamorro or Carolinian a plus. Applicant must have a valid CNMI Driver's License.

The salary is $28,000.00. Information about the Zoning Board and the Zoning Office may be viewed at the Zoning Board website: www.zoning.gov.mp. Application submittals should be addressed to the Zoning Administrator. Submittals may be sent via e-mail, FAX, U.S. mail, or hand delivered to the address below. Submittals must include a letter of interest, a CNMI Application For Employment, and a resume. The Application for Employment may be picked up from the Zoning Office or the Office of Personnel Management. Applicants must be US citizens, permanent residents or immediate relatives. Please send submittals to: E-mail: Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp or to the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

The deadline to receive applications and all requirements is Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 4:30pm.

Zoning Board
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel. 670-234-9661, FAX 234-9666
E-mail ZoningBoard@zoning.gov.mp

Mariano Taitano, Treasurer
Joe E. Ayuyu, Jr., Secretary
Patrick Reyes, Member

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS FOR SLL 20-25, NUISANCE ABATEMENT & BLIGHTED PROPERTY MAINTENANCE ACT OF 2018

The Zoning Office will be conducting several Public Outreach and Education Awareness meetings at specified locations around the island with community members, businesses, developers, property-owners, or any interested members of the general public. The first meeting to be held at the **Dandan Middle School on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 5:30pm.**

These meetings are intended to engage the public and discuss **SLL 20-25 Nuisance Abatement & Blighted Property Maintenance Act of 2018.**

The scheduled public outreach meetings within targeted villages are as follows:

DATE	PLACE	TIME
March 12, 2019 – Tues.	Dandan Middle School cafeteria, Dandan	5:30pm
March 14, 2019 – Thurs.	Saipan Southern High School cafeteria, Koblerville	5:30pm
March 19, 2019 – Tues.	Kagman High School cafeteria, Kagman	5:30pm
March 21, 2019 – Thurs.	Tanapag Middle School cafeteria, Tanapag	5:30pm
April 2, 2019 – Tues.	Multipurpose Center, Susupe	5:30pm
April 9, 2019 – Tues.	GTC Elementary School cafeteria, San Roque	5:30pm

The Zoning Board and Office encourages the public to join and attend the meetings to learn more about **SLL 20-25 Nuisance Abatement & Blighted Property Maintenance Act of 2018.**

SLL 20-25 may be viewed and downloaded from our website at www.zoning.gov.mp

For more information, please call the Zoning Office at 234-9661 or visit the office located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building located in Dandan.

MITT Draft SEIS/OEIS comment period extended, meetings set

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Navy invites the public to attend open house public meetings for the Mariana Islands Training and Testing Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement.

Due to the effects of Typhoon Wutip, Navy officials postponed public meetings supporting the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS planned for Feb. 26-27. Rescheduled public meeting dates and locations are listed below.

The public comment period has been extended by 15 days from March 18 to April 2. The Navy will host separate meetings in Guam and in the CNMI in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to specifically focus on effects to historic properties. The purpose of the section 106 meetings are to engage with existing consulting parties.

In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with ongoing and future military readiness activities conducted within the Study Area at sea and on Farallon de Medinilla. The Navy requests and welcomes substantive public comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Open house public meetings

The Navy will hold four open house public meetings to provide information, answer questions, and give the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The public may arrive at any time during the meetings, as there will not be a presentation or public oral comment session. The meetings will be held at the following locations:

- **TINIAN:** Thursday, March 14, 1-3:30pm, Tinian Public Library
- **ROTA:** Friday, March 15, 1:30-4:30pm, Rota Mayor's Office
- **SAIPAN:** March 18, 5pm - 8pm, Kanoa Resort Saipan Seaside Hall
- **GUAM:** Tuesday, March 19, 5-8pm, University of Guam Jesus & Eugenia Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building, Anthony Leon Guerrero Multi-Purpose Room 129 and Henry Sy Atrium Mangilao, Guam

Availability

The U.S. Navy is seeking public review and comment on the proposed action and alternatives, and the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental analysis. The Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS is available for public review online at www.MITT-EIS.com and at the following locations:

- **GUAM:** Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, University of Guam; and Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library
- **SAIPAN:** Joeten-Kiyu Public Library
- **TINIAN:** Tinian Public Library
- **ROTA:** Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library

The Navy will accept comments throughout the extended public comment period, which ends April 2. All comments must be postmarked or received online by April 2, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted online at www.MITT-EIS.com, at the public meetings, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific
Attention: MITT EIS/OEIS Project Manager
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134

Proposed action

The proposed action is to conduct at-sea training and testing activities within the study area. These activities include the use of active sonar and explosives while employing marine species mitigation measures. The purpose of the Proposed Action, which remains the same as the 2015 MITT Final EIS/OEIS, is to maintain a ready force to ensure the military can accomplish its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready forces.

The proposed at-sea training and testing activities are generally consistent with those analyzed in the 2015 MITT Final EIS/OEIS and are similar to activities the military has conducted in the Study Area for decades.

Visit the project website at www.MITT-EIS.com to download the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and submit substantive comments online. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW19-IFB-008

ROUTE 34 (KAGMAN ROAD) REPAIR

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Route 34 (Kagman Road) Repair**, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **February 28, 2019** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **March 19, 2019**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **March 28, 2019** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening**.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW19-IFB-008"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time April 5, 2019**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, April 5, 2019**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to **procurement@cnmidof.net**. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **April 5, 2019** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **April 16, 2019**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, April 20, 2019**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on April 5, 2019**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Two Hundred Forty (240) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Five Hundred (US$500.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

JOE A. TUDELA
Acting Director of Procurement & Supply

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

Amendment No. 1

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CPD) FUNDS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2019 AND SOLICITATION FOR COMMENTS FOR THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS PAID FOR BY NMHC WITH CPD FUNDS.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is announcing the availability of an estimated $1,361,000.00 in Community Planning and Development (CPD) funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. NMHC anticipates receiving an estimated amount of $870,145.00 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); $421,257.00 in Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and, $69,598.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2019.

The CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) to meet other urgent community development needs.

The CDBG program requires a grant recipient to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of persons. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financing assistance, site acquisition or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit low-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert to buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention and rapid re-housing activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless.

- ***Program Year 2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds will be utilized for the following projects: Rehabilitation of the Tinian Gymnasium Basketball Court; Rehabilitation of the Rota Youth Center; Rehabilitation of the Tanapag Youth Center; Rehabilitation of the Sinapalo Children's Park Roof.***
- ***Program Year 2019 Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG) funds will be used for repaid re-housing of homeless families in the CNMI.***
- ***Program Year 2019 HOME funds will continue to be used to assist families in new construction, rehabilitation, and purchase of a home.***
- ***Consolidated Plan: The NMHC is preparing its Five (5) Year Consolidated Plan and is soliciting comments and input on the priority needs, goals, and objectives for the next five (5) years.***

A briefing will be conducted to the public to discuss regarding the CPD program funds. The briefing will also enable the community to comment on the use of the program funds and to obtain information regarding the CPD program process.

The schedules and venues for the briefing are as follows:

Rota: ~~***Sinapalo Youth Center, Sinapalo: March 08, 2019: 3:00 p.m.***~~
Moved to March 18, 2019: 3:00 p.m. at the Sinapalo Youth Center, Sinapalo

Tinian: ***Mayor's Office Conference Room, San Jose: March 12, 2019: 3:00 p.m.***

Saipan: ***NMHC Central Office Conference Room, Garapan: March 15, 2019: 3:00 p.m.***

Accommodations for disabled individuals or other non-English speaking individuals who wish to attend the briefing are available upon request by giving at least 24 hours notice prior to the briefing so that such needs can be arranged and provided. Additional inquiries, concerning the CPD programs, may be directed to Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Mr. Jacob Muna, Planning Assistant at 234-6866 or 234-7689.

/s/

Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

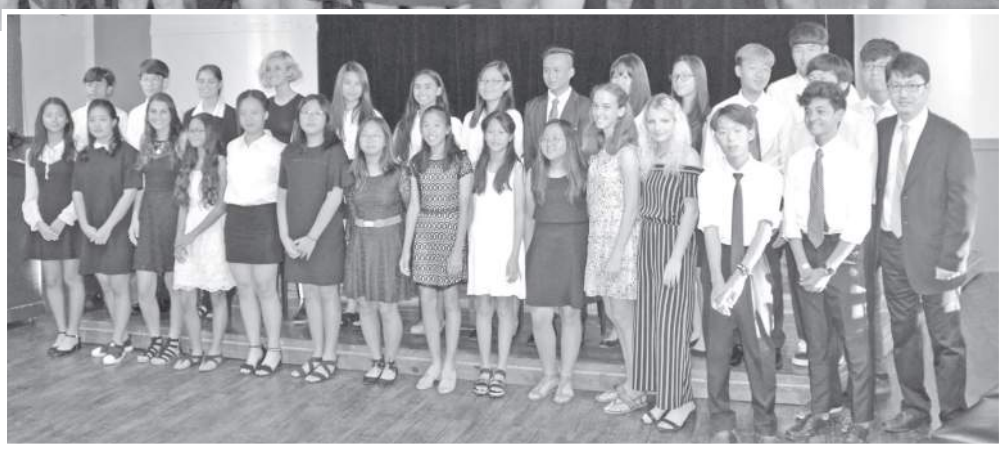
Tinian Field Office
Tel: (670)433-9213
Fax: (670)433-3690

"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"

Rota Field Office
Tel: (670)532-9410
Fax: (670)532-9441

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Saipan International School's National Honor Society pose for a photo after the induction ceremony on March 1, 2019, at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club Saipan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan International School's National Junior Honor Society poses for a photo after the induction ceremony on March 1, 2019, at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

SIS welcomes 30 to the ranks of NHS and NJHS

Saipan International School held its National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony on March 1, 2019, at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club Saipan to welcome a total of 30 new members.

The lighting of a white candle marked the beginning of the ceremony. Led by formally-dressed NHS and NJHS members, 15 NJHS and 15 NHS inductees entered the theater, received the candles, recited the pledges, and joined the honor societies.

Parents, guests, and teachers assembled at the NJHS and NHS induction ceremony to celebrate and welcome the new members.

SIS headmaster Dr. Ron Snyder welcomed the guests and spoke briefly about the honor societies, Adviser Ingur Lee spoke about the five ideals of the NHS and presented the candidates, and members welcomed the new members into the societies by passing the candle lights to them and congratulating them.

A reception and dinner followed the induction ceremony.

For school year 2018-19, SIS added Seongmin Cho, Annamarie Devey, Lucy Devey, Hyeonbin Jeong, Hyeyoon Kim, Seunghyun Kim, Lisha Lai, Seo Hee Lee, Hannah Lim, Pyper Liske-Clark, Stella McCallion, Claire Park, Kyla Park, Meleena Salas-Cabrera, and Geon Ho Song to NJHS and Maria Gregoire, Frederic Guintu, Gaeul Kim, Guy Yeon Kim, Wonji Kim, Sangyoon Lee, Seungho Lee, You Sun Lee, Samantha Liske-Clark, Wonwoo Nam, Christine Ngo, Yeon Kyoung No, Jason Sablan, John Paul Sablan, and Maury Zon Tybaco to NHS. With these additions, SIS now has 26 NHS members and 34 NJHS members.

The NHS and NJHS are the nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding high school and middle level students.

NHS and NJHS have very stringent membership requirements. To be considered, students must have at least 3.7 GPA and must go through a rigorous selection process. The candidates are evaluated on the basis of character, leadership, and service to the school and the community, and a five-member faculty council decides the admission of the candidates.

To maintain membership, the new members must maintain the high standards and participate in a service project.

For the past years, NJHS and NHS members of SIS have adopted a yearlong schoolwide mentoring program to assist elementary and middle school students and students who have special needs. ***(PR)***

JOE HILL, Esq.
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. Box 500917
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone.: (670) 234-6806/7743
Fax: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner/Administratrix
Nancy E. Russell

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:	**CIVIL ACTION NO.: 18-0447-CV**
ROBERT WILSON RUSSELL, Deceased	**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ROBERT WILSON RUSSELL OR OF HIS ESTATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, Nancy E. Russell, has filed with the Clerk of this Court a Verified Amended Petition for Letters of Administration and Appointment of Administratrix dated February 4, 2019 for the estate of Robert Wilson Russell, deceased. The attorney of record is Joe Hill of Joe Hill Law Offices, P.O. Box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the decedent or the Estate of Robert Wilson Russell, or his Estate, are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice, or the claim(s) will be forever barred.

A copy of your claim(s) should also be sent to the attorney for Petitioner/Administratrix Nancy E. Russell, Joe Hill, Hill Law Offices, whose address is Tokcha Avenue at Lulai Wy, Susupe, Saipan, P.O. Box 500917, MP 96950.

Dated this 4th day of March, 2019.

/s/ Clerk of Court, Superior Court

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Board of Governors of the Northern Mariana Islands Museum of History and Culture, hereby give notice that a regular meeting of the Museum will be held on Friday, March 8, 2019 at 11:00am at the NMI Museum of History and Culture in Garapan, Saipan. All interested persons are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 664-2160 or send fax to 664-2170.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call/Ascertain Quorom

III. Adoption of Agenda

IV. Approval of Minutes

V. Reports
  A. Chairman's Report
  B. Executive Directors Report

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business
  A. Museum Land Assignment to MVA
  B. Professional Services

VIII. Miscellaneous Matters

IX. Announcements

X. Adjournment

Chris Concepcion
Chairman, Board of Governors

The U.S. Navy
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE
in the Mariana Islands Training and Testing
Supplemental EIS/OEIS Public Involvement Process

Due to the effects of Typhoon Wutip, Navy officials postponed public meetings planned for Feb. 26-27, 2019.
This notice announces the rescheduled public meetings and a 15-day extension of the comment period.

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with ongoing military readiness activities conducted within the Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT) EIS/OEIS Study Area. The draft supplement to the 2015 MITT Final EIS/OEIS supports ongoing and future activities conducted within the Study Area: at sea and on Farallon de Medinilla (FDM).

Public Involvement

The Navy welcomes your review and comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted at the public meetings, online at **www.MITT-EIS.com**, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific
Attention: MITT SEIS/OEIS Project Manager
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134

Comments must be postmarked or received online by April 2, 2019, Chamorro Standard Time, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Open House Public Meetings

Arrive and submit comments anytime during the open house. No presentation or public oral comment session will be conducted.

TINIAN, Thursday, March 14, 2019
1 to 3:30 p.m.
Tinian Public Library
San Jose Village

ROTA, Friday, March 15, 2019
1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Mayor's Conference Hall
Songsong Village

SAIPAN, Monday, March 18, 2019
5 to 8 p.m.
Kanoa Resort Saipan
Seaside Hall
Beach Road in Susupe

GUAM , Tuesday, March 19, 2019
5 to 8 p.m.
University of Guam
Jesus and Eugenia Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building
Anthony Leon Guerrero Multi-Purpose Room 129
and Henry Sy Atrium

The draft document is available online at **www.MITT-EIS.com** or at the following public libraries: University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Tinian Public Library, and Rota Public Library.

Register for NMC's spring semester

Northern Marianas College is reminding all individuals interested in furthering their education that they still have until Saturday, March 23, 2019, to register for the upcoming spring semester.

■ Registration for ongoing and new students via Proa Portal: Ongoing until March 23, 2019

■ First day of classes: April 1, 2019

NMC will be also having a free information session on Thursday, March 21, 2019, which is open to all prospective students and interested community members. Those who would like to apply for admission or register for classes can attend the info session.

The information session will be held from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at the college's Olympio T. Borja Library at the As Terlaje campus.

In addition to the admission process, the information session will cover financial aid options that are available for the spring 2019 semester. This will include the Federal Financial Aid program which uses the FAFSA.

The Federal Financial Aid program is administered by the U.S. Department of Education. Through the program's various types of grants, loans, and scholarships, the Federal Financial Aid program is the largest financial aid provider in the U.S.

Attendees of the information session will qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming spring 2019 semester, a savings of about $75.

NMC offers several degree and certificate programs, including a bachelor of science degree in education (emphasis in elementary education, early childhood education, special education, or rehabilitation and human services), bachelor of science degree in business management (emphasis in accounting); associate of arts degree in business, associate of applied science degrees in business administration (emphasis in accounting, business management, or computer applications), associate of arts in liberal arts (emphasis in education, health and physical education, and social work), associate of science in nursing, natural resources management, associate of applied science in criminal justice, and hospitality management.

For more information about registering for classes for the upcoming spring 2019 semester or to apply for admission, contact NMC's Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Zoning Office closed tomorrow

The Zoning Office will be closed on Friday, March 8, 2019, from 1:30pm to 4:30pm, for staff training. Normal working hours will resume on Monday, March 11, 2019. ***(PR)***

7 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged seven Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are Garapan Fishing Dock, Sugar Dock, CK District 2, CK District 4, Laly Beach, Chalan Piao, and Hopwood.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Military training at old golf course

ASAN, Guam—The 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit will conduct training at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada on March 7-18, from 6am to 11:55pm.

The public should be advised that routine training often accompanied with the use of blanks can occur during training.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. ***(PR)***

GRC physicians to hold clinic at CHC

Dr. Nathaniel B. Berg and Dr. Jeffery Shay of Guam Radiology Consultants are returning to the Commonwealth Health Center on Thursday, March 14, 2019, just two weeks after Shay's Feb. 28 visit. Berg and Shay will be seeing patients at risk for or diagnosed with atherosclerotic peripheral vascular disease, or ASPVD. The clinic will be at the Radiology Department of CHC, from 9am to 4pm. Send inquiries and referrals to cnmi@guamradioloy.com or fax to (671) 647-4600. Sheila Baisa, IR coordinator will assist. ***(PR)***

CHamoru commission meetings set

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold it monthly meetings on March 14 and 28, 2109, Thursdays, from 12:30pm to 3pm, in the Garden House, Plaza De Espana, Hagatna.

Agenda items include but are not limited to: approval of minutes, reports from the chair, vice-chair, secretary and committee chairs, fiscal year 2019 financial matters, second set of orthography training, strategic plans and implementation updates, and Year of Indigenous Language activities.

Work sessions will also be held on Thursday, March 7 and 21, 2019, 12:30pm – 3pm at the same venue.

For more information contact Kumisión chair/Gé'helo' Hope Alvarez Cristobal at 483-0097 or secretary/Sikritåria Rosa Salas Palomo at 727-5522. ***(PR)***

Military trainings set

ASAN, Guam—Military units participating in COPE North 2019 is conducting training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla until March 8, from 8am to 7pm.

Also, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 and the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit is conducting training at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada until March 8, from noon to 4pm.

The U.S. Navy will also conduct an open-ocean, live-fire gunnery exercise tomorrow, March 7, from 10am to 11:55pm.

Military units participating in Surface Warfare Advanced Tactical Training 2019 will conduct training from midnight to 11:59pm, March 7-10, at Warning Area 517.

It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island.

The public should be advised that routine helicopter training often accompanied with the use of blanks can occur during training at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course.

The open-ocean exercise will take place within a 10-nautical mile radius of the following coordinates: 13° 26"N/145° 08"E, 13° 42"N/144° 36"E. It is recommended the public, commercial pilots, fishermen and marine tour operators stay clear from this area during the dates and times indicated. ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW/VAO19-IFB-009

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 12, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"CONSTRUCTION FOR THE CNMI VETERANS CEMETARY EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT. A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT PACIFIC QUICK PRINT & POST, LOCATED IN MIDDLE ROAD, GARAPAN, SAIPAN. A FEE WILL BE ASSESSED BY PACIFIC QUICK PRINT FOR COPIES OF THE IFB DOCUMENTS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS IFB MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO **MR. ANTONY A. CAMACHO, DIRECTOR OF DPW/TSD** VIA FACSIMILE TO (670) 234-3547 **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS 04:30 P.M., MARCH 26, 2019**. RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS.

A **PRE-BID CONFERENCE** IS SCHEDULED NO LATER THAN **09:00 A.M. LOCAL TIME, APRIL 02, 2019** AT THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM 1ST FLOOR, CAPITOL HILL, JUAN A. SABLAN MEMORIAL BUILDING, SAIPAN. THE PROSPOECTIVE BIDDERS ARE ENCOURAGE TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THE SITE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ JOSEPH A. TUDELA
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR CNMI WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

The Antidegradation Policy of the Water Quality Standards of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands states that the protection and maintenance of the quality of the waters of the Commonwealth are an historic and legal right of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, and that this shall be the public policy of the Commonwealth. Any proposed activity that will impact the waters of the Commonwealth must receive a Water Quality Certification, BECQ must assure that the proposed activity complies with all applicable provisions of the CNMI Water Quality Standards and federal Clean Water Act, will not interfere with the attainment or maintenance of the existing or designated use of the Commonwealth waters, and that all appropriate and practicable steps have been taken to minimize potential adverse impacts to aquatic life and human health.

Upon receiving an application, BECQ issues a public notification which describes the proposed activity and potential impacts on water quality, aquatic life and human health. A thirty (30) day public comment period will commence from the date of the first publication of the notice.

The administrator an application, BECQ may conduct a public hearing to solicit comments on the application if a hearing is requested by the public. BECQ will make determination for issuing a Water Quality Certification based upon a complete technical review of the application and the public comments received.

BECQ is soliciting comments on the following application for a CNMI Water Quality Certification.

1. APPICANT: CNMI Department of Public Lands, P.O. Box 500380, Saipan, MP 96950
2. APPLICABLE STATUTIRY AUTHORITY: CNMI Commonwealth Environmental Protection Act (Public Law No.3-23); CNMI Water Quality Standards, Parts 600 (Commonwealth Register Vol.36 No.05, May 28, 2014).
3. LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACITVITY: The Managaha Wastewater Treatment Plant is located on Managaha Island, Saipan, and discharges to a leaching field located approximately 10 feet inward of the western shoreline of Managaha Island by the Tanapag Harbor.
4. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITITY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is proposing to issue a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit authorizing the discharge of treated wastewater from the Managaha Island wastewater treatment system. The treatment plant was built and completed in early 2007 in response to enforcement actions taken by BECQ and USEPA for violations of water quality standards caused by the failure of the previous treatment system.
5. IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ACTION: The new treatment system provides substantially enhanced treatment performance compared to old system. Nonetheless, treated wastewater discharges to the groundwater of Managaha may still adversely affect water quality. See page along the shoreline will transport wastewater constituents such as nutrients (nitrate, phosphate), pathogens (bacteria, viruses), and other wastewater pollutants to the near-shore waters, primarily on the northern shoreline of Managaha. However, due to the enhanced treatment, which includes effluent disinfection, and effect of strong shoreline currents, it is not expected that the discharge will result in violations of water quality criteria.
6. PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES: The primary mitigation measures for the discharge of treated effluent are proper treatment plant operation and maintenance, and requirements(prohibitions) regarding the types of wastes and substances that can be disposed of into the sewer system. Under the USEPA permit and the BECQ WQC, performance. In addition, water quality monitoring of the nearby shoreline will be required.

Written comments and inquires should be submitted to BECQ within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication of this notice. Please mail comments to administrator, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

WE TELL YOU WHAT TO EAT...
AND WHAT TO WEAR!
WE WANT TO TAKE YOUR CARS... GUNS...
LIGHT BULBS, STRAWS, PLASTIC BAGS, CROSSES, SODA AND MONEY!
WE'LL TELL YOU WHAT WORDS ARE ACCEPTABLE...
AND WHO YOU MUST VOTE FOR! AFTER ALL-YOU DON'T WANT TO BE GOVERNED...
BY A BUNCH OF NAZIS!
the LEFT
YOUR HAT TRIGGERS ME
NO P.C.
RESIST
IMPEACH
STOP FASCISM
HITCH

EDITORIAL

It's Congress' duty to investigate child separations

Nearly a year has passed since the Trump administration launched a cruel and inhumane policy of separating children from their families at the Mexican border. The new Democratic majority in the House can and should find answers for Americans.

Despite intense public attention, many questions remain unanswered, including when exactly the separations began and whether they've completely ended.

A court order last summer led to the identification of 2,737 children separated from their parents between April and June last year. But the number doesn't reflect all of the family separations, according to a brief issued last month by the inspector general's office of the Department of Health and Human Services.

"Thousands of children may have been separated during an influx that began in 2017, before the accounting required by the court," the inspector general's office said in a release. "In addition, as of early November 2018, HHS has received at least 118 separated children since the court order."

This week, a House Judiciary Committee panel on immigration and citizenship will hear testimony on the policy from administration officials and others. The House Homeland Security Committee also has scheduled hearings, including testimony from Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, next month.

Such investigations are necessary. There's a risk that House Democrats frustrated with the Trump administration could go overboard. But a measured approach can provide a thorough accounting of how the separation policy came into being and where those children are today.

While they're at it, House investigators should examine operations at a temporary facility in Homestead, Fla., where 1,600 children between the ages of 13 and 17 are being held after crossing the border with their parents. Before the closing of a similar facility in Texas, more than 14,600 such children were being held in U.S. facilities—an increase of 9,200 since President Donald Trump took office. The facilities are exempt from standards that restrict the U.S. government from detaining unaccompanied children more than 20 days.

Stories of abuses of power and bureaucratic failures flow by with such regularity these days that it's easy to lose a sense of the significance of what Americans are witnessing.

This unconscionable separation policy, in particular, needs to be re-examined to ensure that the nation understands and records exactly what happened and holds accountable all those who allowed it.

(c)2019 *The Seattle Times*

The untold story: How white folks own their racism

By ERIN AUBRY KAPLAN
Los Angeles Times

Erin Aubry Kaplan is a contributing writer to Opinion.

The come-from-behind win of "Green Book" as best picture has ratcheted up debate that's been simmering all year about the movie's artistic and political vision. The criticism goes like this: In the age of "Black Panther" and "BlacKkKlansmen," when black artists are at last seizing narrative control of their own stories, a black-white buddy movie that reaches for racial reconciliation in segregated America is embarrassingly retro, not least because it's a story told through the lens of the white character.

I also had a racial problem with the movie. But my problem is not that it told the black story insufficiently in detailing the relationship between the white driver, "Tony Lip" Vallengola (played by Viggo Mortensen), and the black pianist, Don Shirley (played by Mahershala Ali). My problem is that it told the white story insufficiently. It squandered a tremendous opportunity to flesh out the complex journey of a white person who starts out being reflexively racist but moves on to accepting a different truth about black people. That kind of transformation necessarily entails questioning the entire system that demonizes black people in the first place. But we see none of that from Tony.

In one of the first scenes, a couple of black plumbers come to Tony's apartment to do some repairs. Tony can tolerate this, but not that his wife has provided them with water in his glasses; once they leave, he tosses the glasses in the trash in obvious disgust. Yet this aversion to black people doesn't really come up again. We don't see him struggle to overcome his feelings once he signs on to drive for Shirley, a black, gay, impeccably educated concert pianist. Instead he simply seems to have checked his racial animus at "hello." The preconceived notions he does have are relatively harmless, like his assumption that all black people like soul music and fried chicken.

Is this not profoundly unbelievable? Tony Lip may be a good guy at heart, but he's no progressive, and working for a Don Shirley would give him serious pause. There is no way he would go from viewing black people as tainted and toxic—throwing something they touched into the garbage—to being entirely open-minded. It's magical realism.

But viewers, whether they like "Green Book" or not, accept this gap because we've always accepted it. We either don't expect or don't want to know how white folks work through—or don't—their own everyday racism. Instead we see extremes: white people who are villains or heroes when it comes to race. Sometimes, like Tony, they do transform dramatically. But we never see the transformation, that vast gray landscape between villain and hero. In Tony, we see a man who can't bear to put his lips where a black person's have been, and a few scenes later, we see a man doing battle with a restaurant manager who refuses to serve Don Shirley.

In real life, despite the mainstreaming of white nationalism in recent years, most Americans are loath to admit ever having been racist, and certainly to still harboring any racial animus. Very likely it's because of the shame such a notion invokes, or guilt, or resentment. The intimate story of white racism remains disconcerting, and disorienting. But it's crucial to see and hear the stories of how white racial attitudes play out, how they change.

The white heroism/villainy binary is increasingly a real political problem. We decry as villains public figures who have sported blackface in the past, like Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, and call for their resignations. But a great majority of white people were and may still be complicit in racism, especially those in the South. Some of them have evolved, some have not; many are probably still mid-journey.

A larger truth suggested but ignored in "Green Book" is that racism has distorted the outlook and behavior of whites not just in the South, but in the whole nation as well. Whites are not heroes or villains so much as they are the beneficiaries of an oppressive system created by fellow whites. The degree to which they acquiesce to that system, whether in 1962 or now, is the great untold story of the color line that rarely is examined. True, we don't have a lot of models for such a story; America never really integrated, which means white people can often remain oblivious to racial divisions. They have few reasons to grapple with their own racial attitudes, to disassemble them and see where they fall on the spectrum. How alarming it would be to discover that even if you're not a bona fide racist, your incremental evolution still leaves plenty of room for racist behavior—a far more common state, I suspect, than being either villain or hero.

Gradual evolution and self-examination may not make for feel-good stories, but they are stories that desperately need to be told, in Hollywood and the real world. In groundbreaking movies like "BlacKkKlansman" and even the glorious "Black Panther," black filmmakers are seizing control of their stories, in part by looking at intragroup nuances that are not always flattering or resolvable. It is beyond time for whites to do the same.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The US is pushing Iran into the arms of our enemies

By THOMAS R. PICKERING
The Dallas Morning News

Thomas R. Pickering is former U.S. ambassador to Russia, India, Israel and the U.N., and undersecretary of state.

The U.S. has levied heavy sanctions against Iran, seriously damaging its economy. Iran's President Hassan Rouhani recently said, "Today the country is facing the biggest pressure and economic sanctions in the past 40 years."

Those same sanctions appear intended to threaten Tehran with regime change, put additional pressure on Iran's 80 million people, drive wedges between us and our European allies and force Iran from the bargaining table. Longer term, they increase U.S. international isolation and reduce the power of the U.S. dollar and Treasury as instruments of world leadership.

Sanctions are applied to impel an adversary to seek an agreement on a problem that threatens U.S. interests. U.S.-led sanctions against Iran eight years ago combined with oil price declines and mismanagement of Iran's economy put its nuclear bomb program under stringent limits and unparalleled monitoring. The result showed an effective use of the sanctions tool.

The Trump administration has not spoken of the objectives of its sanctions. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo issued 13 unilateral demands to assure us that Iran will not make a nuclear weapon—a trenchant example of the perfect being the eternal enemy of the good. The president's vague offer to talk about a "better" nuclear deal by throwing out the existing one is like buying a used car from a convicted carjacker.

These sanctions are undermining the well-being of millions of Iranians while egging on Iran to take ever-more aggressive action in Iraq and Syria and build more ballistic missiles. The sole conclusion that Iran can possibly reach is that the U.S. seeks regime change. The threat of regime change, as Pompeo admitted in Warsaw in a possibly unguarded moment, seems real. Looking only at the history of Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya, the U.S. has not been very successful.

Meanwhile, Iran is launching diplomatic overtures around the world as the state that stands up to the xenophobia of "America First." Iran's role today recalls the high point of Fidel Castro's Cuba, which gained broad recognition as the obstinate David against the U.S. Goliath even though few sympathized with the Cuban system.

The abject failure of a recent Pompeo-promoted conference against Iran in Warsaw is a clear indicator that the U.S. strategy of trying (and failing) to build a broad coalition against Iran is undermining U.S. world leadership.

Friendly and hostile nations are now planning many ways to work around the U.S. secondary sanctions levied against them to stop trade with Iran. Russia, China and many other nations that have ever more reluctantly used the American dollar as the world reserve currency have expressed greater interest in getting others to use the euro or their rubles or yuan instead. Bankers and government officials assure us that the dollar will remain a great source of American power long into the future, but cracks are developing.

Our European allies set up a financial facility specifically to avoid the long arm of U.S. sanctions against their trade with Iran. The Instrument in Support of Trade Exchange will allow goods to be bartered between Iranian companies and others without dollars or international banks. It is unclear whether it will be effective, but it is another signal of mounting rejection of the U.S. and its Treasury Department.

The administration's determination to restrict Iran's export of oil to zero is designed to crush Iran's access to currency and foreign goods. Pushback against these U.S. efforts from states that have traditionally depended on Iranian petroleum has forced the administration to give short-term waivers to eight countries (including China, India and Japan), thereby confusing the world market. For example, the U.S. has brought significant pressure on Iraq to cease importing refined petroleum products and electricity from Iran. This extra demand on Baghdad has added to the mounting disenchantment of with U.S. confrontational strategies against Iran on Iraqi territory.

The U.S. objective should be to undermine Iran's posture as the victim of U.S. hostility, repair the isolation into which our policies have put us, and put on the table a set of ideas for ending Iran's flirtation with nuclear weapons. There is no major conflict in the Middle East that can be solved without Iran's involvement, most especially the nuclear question. The paradox of Iran's mounting influence because of the sanctions is real. The way to solve it is to build a multinational, cooperative diplomatic commitment to convince Iran that constructive engagement beats aggressive estrangement any time.

Let's have an end to endless war

By LEON ANDERSON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

In President Dwight Eisenhower's 1961 farewell address to the country, he warned the nation about the dangers of the military-industrial complex, and the dangerous political influence that a permanent armaments industry could have on government. This warning came from the same five-star general who led the Allied forces to victory in World War II. If anybody should have been aware of these dangers, it was Eisenhower.

We need a reminder of that warning now, as allies of the military-industrial complex clamor for a continuation of U.S. involvement in Syria, Afghanistan and Yemen.

In fact, every president since Eisenhower has found a reason to invade some other territory or threaten force to achieve our national ends. From invasions or bombings or intrigues in Guatemala, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Yugoslavia, Libya, Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan, American presidents have deployed U.S. military might in questionable ways. Even Jimmy Carter got his fingers burned sending a hostage rescue party of helicopters into Iran.

The cost in terms of lives lost and lives forever harmed has been enormous. Since the end of World War II, the number of Americans killed in foreign engagements is measured in the tens of thousands. For the poor countries that got in the way of our wrath, it's measured in the millions.

In terms of financial cost, the numbers are staggering. Afghanistan alone has cost a trillion dollars. Just think what we might have accomplished at home if that money had been spent on education, job training, medical research, infrastructure improvements, water purification and sanitation. You can add to this list. It's all important, but taking a backseat to our military funding.

The senseless wars that the United States has waged since Sept. 11, 2001, have nearly bankrupted America and rendered impossible the other vitally needed infrastructure and research projects. For all the money we have spent, we could have built a new home for every family in Afghanistan. We could have built schools and hospitals and roads. In short, we could have initiated a program of investments in peace.

Instead, the United States has rained ruin on vast stretches of the world, killing and impoverishing tens of millions of innocent people.

What happens now? Either we learn to pull in our militaristic horns and try to live in peace or watch a growing national debt crush our chances for economic progress. Continuing to wage endless war against Muslim countries is a sure path to financial ruin. Bin Laden is dead, but the war will never be won. It's time to recognize that fact and begin to bring our troops home.

Leon Anderson is a retired international businessman who lives in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. This column was written for the Progressive Media Project, affiliated with The Progressive magazine, and distributed by Tribune News Service.

Science and social studies shouldn't take a back seat in elementary schools

By STEPHEN FLEMMING
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

A teacher friend of mine was recently complaining to me that school administrators in a Philadelphia public elementary school ordered some teachers to cease teaching science and social studies so they could focus on reading instruction. I was unable to verify this, but it didn't surprise me, since too often, science and social studies take a back seat to reading and math instruction.

As an educator, passionate about teaching and learning, I have several problems with such an approach.

First, science and social studies experiences should always be included in the daily educational experiences of elementary-age students. In a world where STEM and STEAM are all the rage, it is unconscionable to think that these experiences take a back seat to a strict diet of what has become provincial and rote literacy instruction. Science, technology, engineering, and math, along with the arts, are all around us. Imagine a world without our phones, or social media, or modern medicine. Imagine not being able to order a car, or have a car bring food to you, or not being able to use your phone to send someone money. Yes, we need STEM.

The case for teaching social studies is not a hard one to make. One only needs to read the Twitter feed of the 45th president of the United States or perhaps tune into one of his spontaneous news conferences or rambling speeches at his rallies. There appears to be ignorance or indifference to civics, history, law and government, and geography. You may recall the invention of a new African nation, "Nambia," or that there is a separate president of the U.S. Virgin Islands. It's Namibia, by the way and he is the president of the U.S. Virgin Islands. We are also living in a time when history is repeating itself with ostensible voter suppression in the South; misunderstandings about the separateness and equality of the three branches of government; subversion of the law; and the list goes on.

For these very reasons alone, science and social studies should be a part of the daily learning experiences of our elementary-school-age children. It should be our goal as educators to have well-rounded, literate and numerate students. Our schools should be centers where children can experiment, make mistakes, and try again; where children enjoy reading and writing for real purposes and audiences; where the arts and the world's myriad cultures are appreciated; where accurate history is taught; and where they can learn and advocate for equal protection of the law. A narrow focus on literacy instruction that has become singularly focused on test scores and the mutability of some arbitrary standard of proficiency is unfair and ultimately ineffective in preparing our future leaders and president.

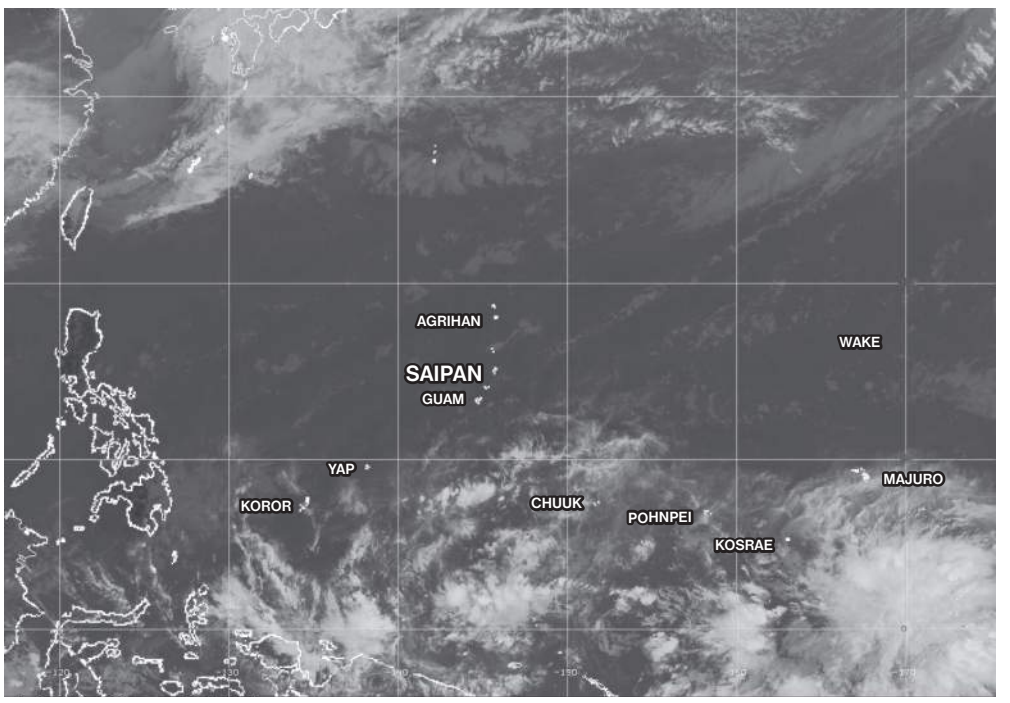
Stephen Flemming is an English teacher and certified reading specialist at Martin Luther King High School in Philadelphia and an adjunct professor at Delaware County Community College.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy toward dawn. A slight chance of showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.
87° 76°	87° 76°	88° 77°	87° 77°	87° 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:23 AM, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Dry moderate to fresh trade winds can be seen from the Mariana Islands eastward to beyond the Date Line. Only spotty light showers are present across the Marianas this morning.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	85° / 76°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85° / 76°
Yap	Showers	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Cloudy	85° / 80°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Kosrae	Showers	85° / 79°
Majuro	Showers	84° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Rain	70° / 61°
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	57° / 37°
Hong Kong	Showers	68° / 66°
Honolulu	Windy	79° / 68°
London	Windy	52° / 36°
Los Angeles	Rain	62° / 49°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 73°
Melbourne	Cloudy	77° / 57°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	75° / 69°
New York	Partly Cloudy	35° / 22°
Osaka	Showers	54° / 36°
Paris	Showers	54° / 39°
Busan	Sunny	57° / 45°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	70° / 54°
Salem	Sunny	61° / 41°
San Francisco	Thunderstorms	50° / 45°
Seoul	Sunny	54° / 28°
Tokyo	Sunny	52° / 37°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	43° / 30°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
02:25 AM	HIGH TIDE	0.04
08:46 AM	LOW TIDE	1.86
2:47 PM	HIGH TIDE	0.75
8:09 PM	LOW TIDE	1.85

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:30 AM	6:25 PM
Friday	6:30 AM	6:25 PM
Saturday	6:29 AM	6:26 PM
Sunday	6:28 AM	6:26 PM
Monday	6:28 AM	6:26 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:13 AM	6:08 PM	-
Friday	6:52 AM	6:56 PM	-
Saturday	7:29 AM	7:43 PM	-
Sunday	8:45 AM	9:20 PM	-
Monday	9:24 AM	10:10 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 5, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:25am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:55am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	9:15am	9:00pm	Daily via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA105/1936:25pm		11:50pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA105/159	6:25pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:11am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:35pm	2:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:55pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/174	00:40am	8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
PR110/UA174	10:05pm	8:11am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	00:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:50pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/174	11:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 4 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

China: Law bars demands for technology handover

BEIJING (AP)—China will bar government authorities from demanding overseas companies hand over technology secrets in exchange for market share, a top economic official said Wednesday, addressing a key complaint at the heart of the current China-U.S. trade dispute.

Xi

The provision is contained in a foreign investment law to be debated at the current annual session of the National People's Congress, Ning Jizhe, vice chairman of the Cabinet's economic planning agency told reporters at a news conference.

The law will "clarify the system for advancement and protection of foreign investment," Ning said. The legal system will ensure that foreign businesses "cannot be required to transfer technology by administrative means, providing a more encompassing and beneficial legal guarantee," he said.

Ning's statement came a day after Chinese Premier Li Keqiang announced a robust annual economic growth target and promised in a speech to the congress' opening session that foreign companies will be "treated as equals" with their Chinese competitors.

Accusations that China demands the disclosure of technology secrets are a key stumbling point in the U.S.-China trade dispute that has significantly disrupted commerce between the world's two largest economies, affecting farmers, liquor exporters and China's key manufacturing industries.

Li on Tuesday set this year's economic growth target at 6 to 6.5 percent. Such a growth rate, if achieved, would be among the world's strongest. Yet it would be slightly below last year's 6.6 percent growth in China and would mark a new three-decade low.

China's emergence as a competitor in smartphones, telecom equipment, solar power and other technologies has increased the range of products available to consumers and helped to drive down prices. But it rattles Washington and other governments that worry Chinese competition is a threat to their industries and employment.

Such concerns underscore a standoff between the U.S. and China over Huawei Technologies, the world's biggest maker of telecom infrastructure for new high-speed 5G networks. Washington has been pushing hard to exclude the Chinese company from building the backbone of the future internet.

News reports say Washington and Beijing might be close to an agreement to end the trade battle and avoid further tariff hikes, although no firm agreements have been announced on the core of the dispute: U.S. pressure on Beijing to roll back its plans for state-led creation of global competitors in robotics and other technology.

Last year, the U.S. levied import taxes of 25 percent on $50 billion of Chinese imports. It followed in September with 10 percent duties on an additional $200 billion. All told, the U.S. tariffs covered roughly half of what the U.S. buys from China.

Washington, Europe and other trading partners say China's policies violate its market-opening obligations and give an unfair advantage to domestic firms. Some American officials worry they might erode U.S. industrial leadership.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Nissan ex-chair Ghosn says he is innocent, ready for defense

TOKYO (AP)—Former Nissan Chairman Carlos Ghosn may leave detention as early as Wednesday, after a Tokyo court approved his release on 1 billion yen ($8.9 million) bail, rejecting an appeal by prosecutors. He said in a statement, "I am innocent and totally committed to vigorously defending myself in a fair trial against these meritless and unsubstantiated accusations." Ghosn's lawyer in Japan, Junichiro Hironaka, said the legal team offered conditions for his release, such as a surveillance camera at the doorway and a promise not to use the internet. He is allowed to make voice calls, but he cannot travel abroad. The former head of the Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi Motors alliance has been detained since November and is charged with falsifying financial reports and breach of trust. Jean-Yves Le Borgne, Ghosn's French lawyer, cautioned that prosecutors still had leeway to file new charges.

Papa John's, Schnatter reach settlement agreement

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (AP)—Papa John's has reached a settlement agreement with founder John Schnatter that will see him step down from the company's board. The agreement comes after more of a year of tussling between the Louisville-based pizza chain and Schnatter, who made a series of racially insensitive remarks that caused sales to plummet. Schnatter stepped down as CEO in late 2017 and resigned as chairman in July after facing backlash for blaming disappointing sales on NFL player protests and used the N-word during a company conference call. Under the settlement, Schnatter and the board will mutually agree on an independent director who will replace Schnatter on the company's nine-member board. If a new director isn't named prior to Papa John's 2019 annual shareholders meeting on April 30, Schnatter's term will expire at the meeting, according to a regulatory filing.

CEO says Southwest is losing millions weekly in labor fight

DALLAS (AP)—The CEO of Southwest Airlines says that a spike in planes grounded by mechanics' concerns is costing the carrier millions each week by causing more delayed and canceled flights. Gary Kelly didn't give a precise figure Tuesday, but said the financial damage prompted the airline's lawsuit last week against the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association, which Southwest claims is aiding an illegal work slowdown. "The company filed suit against AMFA last week to recover those damages and prevent more from occurring," Kelly said at a JPMorgan investor conference. Southwest says some workers are writing up minor mechanical problems such as missing seat-row numbers and grounding planes to gain leverage in negotiations over a new labor contract. Mechanics rejected a proposed deal last year, and the sides remain apart on wages and outsourcing.

Nation

Tornado forecasting improves, but still deaths keep coming

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sometimes in forecasting tornadoes, you can get everything technically right, and yet it all goes horribly wrong.

Three days before the killer Alabama tornado struck, government severe-storm meteorologists cautioned that conditions could be ripe for twisters in the Southeast on Sunday. Then, an hour before the tragedy, they warned that a strong tornado could occur in two particular Alabama counties within 30 to 60 minutes.

And that's what happened.

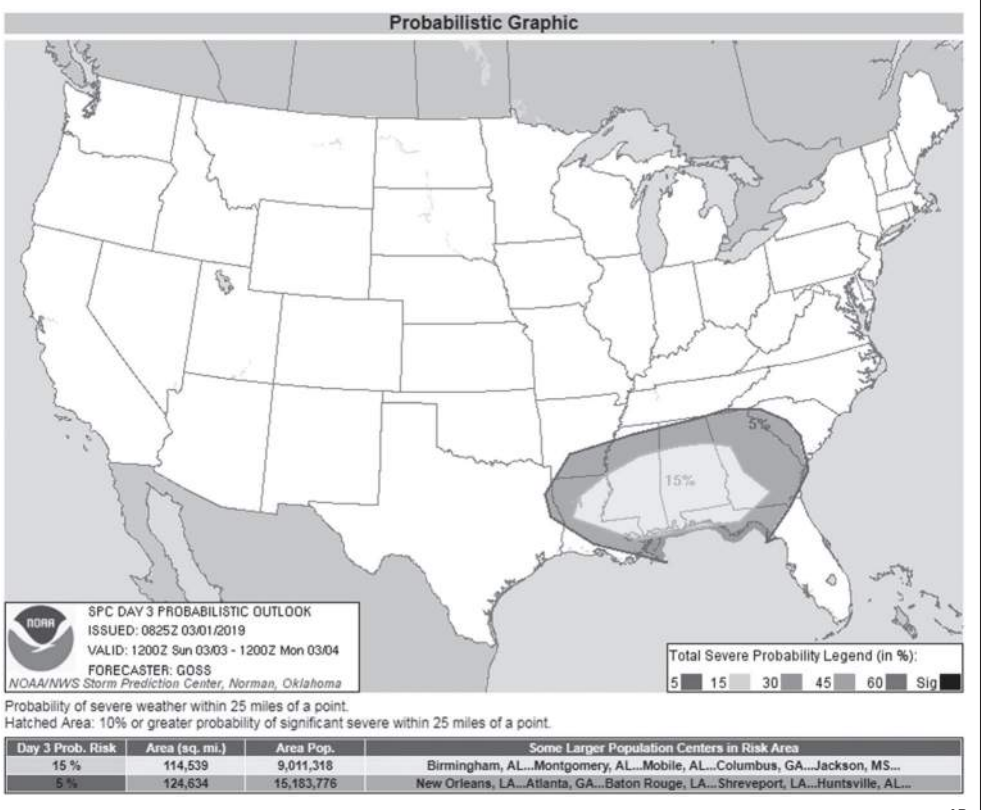
Yet 23 people died.

To a meteorologist, the forecast was the equivalent of a hole-in-one in golf or a slam dunk, but with so many people killed, "was it a success or a failure or both?" asked Colorado State University meteorology professor Russ Schumacher.

Forecasters "painted a pretty clear picture that something bad was going to happen," Schumacher said, and "there's certainly success in that. On the other hand, we don't like to see entire communities to be turned upside-down like this. So there's more to be done."

Predicting with any precision where a tornado is going to go is still beyond the limits of meteorology, which is why warnings went out for a large two-county area when a tornado might be only half a mile wide. And getting people to listen and take precautions is another matter altogether.

Forecasting tornadoes combines the hard physics of meteorology, the softer human factors of social science and more than a dash of chaos.


Probabilistic Graphic
SPC DAY 3 PROBABILISTIC OUTLOOK
ISSUED: 0825Z 03/01/2019
VALID: 1200Z Sun 03/03 - 1200Z Mon 03/04
FORECASTER: GOSS
NOAA/NWS Storm Prediction Center, Norman, Oklahoma
Total Severe Probability Legend (in %):
5 15 30 45 60 Sig
5%
15%
Probability of severe weather within 25 miles of a point.
Hatched Area: 10% or greater probability of significant severe within 25 miles of a point.
Day 3 Prob. Risk | Area (sq. mi.) | Area Pop. | Some Larger Population Centers in Risk Area
15 % | 114,539 | 9,011,318 | Birmingham, AL...Montgomery, AL...Mobile, AL...Columbus, GA...Jackson, MS...
5 % | 124,634 | 15,183,776 | New Orleans, LA...Atlanta, GA...Baton Rouge, LA...Shreveport, LA...Huntsville, AL...

AP

This image from NOAA shows a portion of a tornado warning issued on Friday, March 1, 2019. Three days before the killer Alabama tornado struck, government severe-storm meteorologists cautioned that conditions could be ripe for twisters on Sunday, March 3.

Sacramento police who killed Stephon Clark won't be charged

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California's attorney general announced Tuesday that he won't charge two Sacramento police officers who fatally shot an unarmed black man last year, joining a local prosecutor in finding that the officers reasonably believed Stephon Clark had a gun as he moved toward them.

Attorney General Xavier Becerra announced the results of a nearly yearlong investigation after telling Clark's mother privately. He acknowledged that it was not what Clark's family wanted but said the evidence showed the officers had reason to believe their lives were in danger, though investigators found only a cellphone. SeQuette Clark did not comment Tuesday on Becerra's findings.

"There is a lot of hurt in this community today and certainly in the home of the Clark family," Becerra said. "Our investigation can't change what has happened, but we can make every effort to deliver a fair, thorough and impartial review, which we promised this community."

Clark, 22, was suspected of vandalism when he was shot seven times on March 18, 2018, and his killing prompted protests in California's capital city and across the U.S.

New demonstrations followed Sacramento County District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert's decision this weekend not to charge the officers, with 84 people arrested Monday. A reporter from The Sacramento Bee newspaper was briefly detained while live-streaming the protest, and clergy members were among those arrested. The police said the gathering in a wealthy Sacramento neighborhood was an unlawful assembly and that cars had been keyed.

People who had participated said at Tuesday's City Council meeting that police were overly aggressive, pushing and sometimes striking protesters and ramming them with bikes. The Rev. Kevin Kitrell Ross said officers trapped protesters as they tried to leave before arresting them.

"We witnessed law enforcement trap us on a bridge as we raised our hands showing that we were in surrender," he said.

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Asia

Pakistani Minister of State for Interior Shehryar Afridi, right, and Pakistan's Interior Secretary Azam Suleman Khan give a press conference in Islamabad, Pakistan, Tuesday, March 5, 2019. AP

OVER ATTACK IN INDIAN KASHMIR

Pakistan arrests key suspects

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's Interior Ministry said Tuesday that authorities arrested dozens of suspects in the wake of last month's suicide bombing in Indian-controlled Kashmir that killed 40 Indian troops, including the brother of the leader of the outlawed Jaish-e-Mohammad militant group.

The arrests were apparently aimed at easing tensions between Pakistan and India that escalated after the Feb. 14 suicide attack.

In Tuesday's statement, the ministry said authorities arrested 44 suspects, including at least two prominent members of the outlawed militant group, which claimed responsibility for the attack that pushed the neighboring countries close to an all-out war over contested Kashmir last week. Among those arrested was Mufti Abdul Rauf, the brother of the group's leader, Masood Azhar.

According to the ministry, Rauf was among a list of suspects in a file on last month's bombing that India gave to Pakistan over the weekend through diplomatic channels, urging Islamabad to take action against suspects linked to the killing of its soldiers in the region, which is split between Pakistan and India and is claimed by both in its entirety.

Also detained was Hammad Azhar, the brother-in-law of Masood Azhar.

At a news conference Pakistan Interior Secretary Azam Suleman Khan said Pakistan will take further action against suspects linked to the attack in Indian Kashmir if New Delhi provides additional evidence to Islamabad.

"So far India has not given evidence," he said. "We received only some names" in connection with the suicide attack. He said the 44 suspects detained across the country belonged to a number of groups, not just Jaish-e-Mohammad.

Tuesday's arrests were announced hours after Pakistan's navy claimed that it spotted and warned an Indian submarine approaching its territorial waters in the Arabian Sea not to attempt an incursion.

The navy said in a statement that the Indian submarine wasn't targeted, "keeping in view Pakistan's policy of peace" under which Islamabad wants to de-escalate tensions with New Delhi.

A navy official said the warning was "communicated" to the submarine during Monday's encounter. The submarine then moved away.

The official didn't elaborate and spoke on condition of anonymity to talk to reporters.

In India, a spokesman for the navy, Capt. D.K. Sharma, said on Twitter that the navy "remains deployed as necessary to protect National Maritime Interests." Over the past several days we have witnessed Pakistan indulging in false propaganda and spread of misinformation," he said.

Reports: NKorea rebuilding structures at rocket site

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea is reportedly restoring facilities at its long-range rocket launch site that it had dismantled as part of disarmament steps last year.

The development came after a high-stakes nuclear summit last week between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump ended without any agreement.

South Korea's JoongAng Ilbo newspaper reported Wednesday that the country's spy service gave such an assessment on the North's Tongchang-ri launch site to lawmakers in a private briefing Tuesday.

An article from 38 North, a website specializing in North Korea studies, cited commercial satellite imagery as indicating that efforts to rebuild some structures at the site started sometime between Feb. 16 and March 2.

Dismantling parts of its long-range rocket launch facility in the northwest was among several steps the North took last year when it entered talks with the United States and South Korea. The site is where North Korea carried out satellite launches in recent years, inviting rounds of sanctions from the U.N. that saw it as disguised test of missile technology.

JoongAng Ilbo cited unidentified lawmakers who attended the briefing as saying that National Intelligence Service director Suh Hoon told them that the structures being restored at the launch site include roofs and doors of buildings.

Suh was quoted as saying that the move is seen as a preparation to restart long-range missile test-launches in the event that nuclear diplomacy completely collapses or to add some structures to blow up the launch site more dramatically in a show of denuclearization commitment when U.S. inspectors visit if negotiations with Washington go well.

The offices of South Korean lawmakers who took part in Tuesday's briefing couldn't immediately confirm the newspaper report.

World

Venezuela adversaries seek to show resolve in crisis

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Appearing a day after his rival returned home to a tumultuous welcome, President Nicolas Maduro denounced his opponents in a speech Tuesday at a military ceremony but did not refer by name to opposition leader Juan Guaido. The man who says he is the rightful president, meanwhile, escalated his campaign to topple Maduro with an appeal for support from state unions, long reliant on government handouts.

The dueling scenes, evidence of the rift in a country in crisis, came as Venezuelans and the world awaited the next moves of two adversaries maneuvering for an edge in what could be a protracted struggle. The Maduro government's decision not to move against Guaido upon his return to Venezuela on Monday reflects the intense pressure Maduro faces and, possibly, a calculation that restraint is the best tactic for now.

Still, Maduro was defiant during a ceremony marking the sixth anniversary of the death of his predecessor and mentor, Hugo Chavez, belittling a "minority of opportunists and cowards." He said government supporters would hold a rally on Saturday, a "day of anti-imperialism" in his words, and a counter to U.S.-backed Guaido's plans to hold nationwide protests the same day.

Maduro also pinned medals on members of the security forces involved in a crackdown on Guaido's failed Feb. 23 attempt to bring humanitarian aid into Venezuela from Brazil and Colombia. Maduro has described the attempt, backed by the U.S. and its allies, as part of a plot to overthrow his government.

Hours earlier, Guaido said police officials were among those at a meeting that he held with leaders of public employee unions, which rely heavily on subsidies from Maduro's government to get by in a country suffering from hyperinflation and shortages of food and other necessities.

"We're not going to collaborate any longer with the dictatorship," Guaido said after a meeting at the offices of an engineers' association in Caracas. He urged state workers to prepare for a strike, though no date was given and he said an immediate priority will be to promote a law guaranteeing rights for public workers.

The 35-year-old leader of the opposition-controlled National Assembly said he would call a meeting of the legislature on Wednesday to craft the law.

Guaido and his backers say Maduro's re-election last year was invalid, making the legislative leader interim president. At least one pro-Maduro Supreme Court judge has accused Guaido of illegally usurping power, putting him at risk of arrest.

Guaido had shrouded the route and timing of his return Monday in secrecy amid concerns he might be detained. Yet he breezed through airport immigration checks after a commercial flight from Panama and brazenly called for Maduro's downfall at a rally where the presence of security forces was minimal.

The United States and other countries had warned Maduro not to move against his adversary, and he possibly realized arresting his foe could generate more street protests.

U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, an influential voice in advocating U.S measures against Maduro, warned that the Venezuelan government could still act against Guaido in ways that it has refined against other opposition voices.

"Issue a standing arrest warrant from a rubber stamp court. Then at a time of their choosing, arrest him late at night with no media, diplomats or supporters around," Rubio warned in a tweet.

While Guaido's presence is likely to add at least short-term momentum to his campaign for political change, Maduro has proven resilient and still controls the organs of state, including the critical loyalty of top military officers. Some analysts speculate the two sides might consider behind-the-scenes negotiations as a way to end the standoff.

Teen deaths stir knife crime debate in UK, which limits guns

LONDON (AP)—Jodie Chesney was a keen Explorer Scout. Yousef Makki wanted to be a surgeon.

The two 17-year-olds were stabbed to death on the same weekend in different parts of England, plunging friends and families into grief and igniting an intense political debate about why so many young people in Britain are being killed—and who is to blame.

"How many more?" asked the Daily Mail on Tuesday alongside photos of 27 teenagers who have been stabbed to death in the past year. The Daily Mirror pointed the finger at Prime Minister Theresa May: "How many more, Mrs. May?"

After falling for a decade, knife crime is on the rise in Britain. There were 285 knife homicides in England and Wales from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018, the highest number since comparable records began in 1946.

The number of people admitted to hospitals with blade injuries rose 8 percent from the year before.

Knives are the most common weapon used in slayings in the U.K., where guns are tightly restricted. About 40 percent of murder victims were stabbed to death last year, while only 4 percent were shot.

Both the causes of the crime wave and its solutions are hotly disputed. Police leaders and opposition politicians blame years of public spending cuts by the Conservative-led government, which has slashed funding to police by almost 20 percent since 2010, leading to 20,000 fewer officers on the streets.

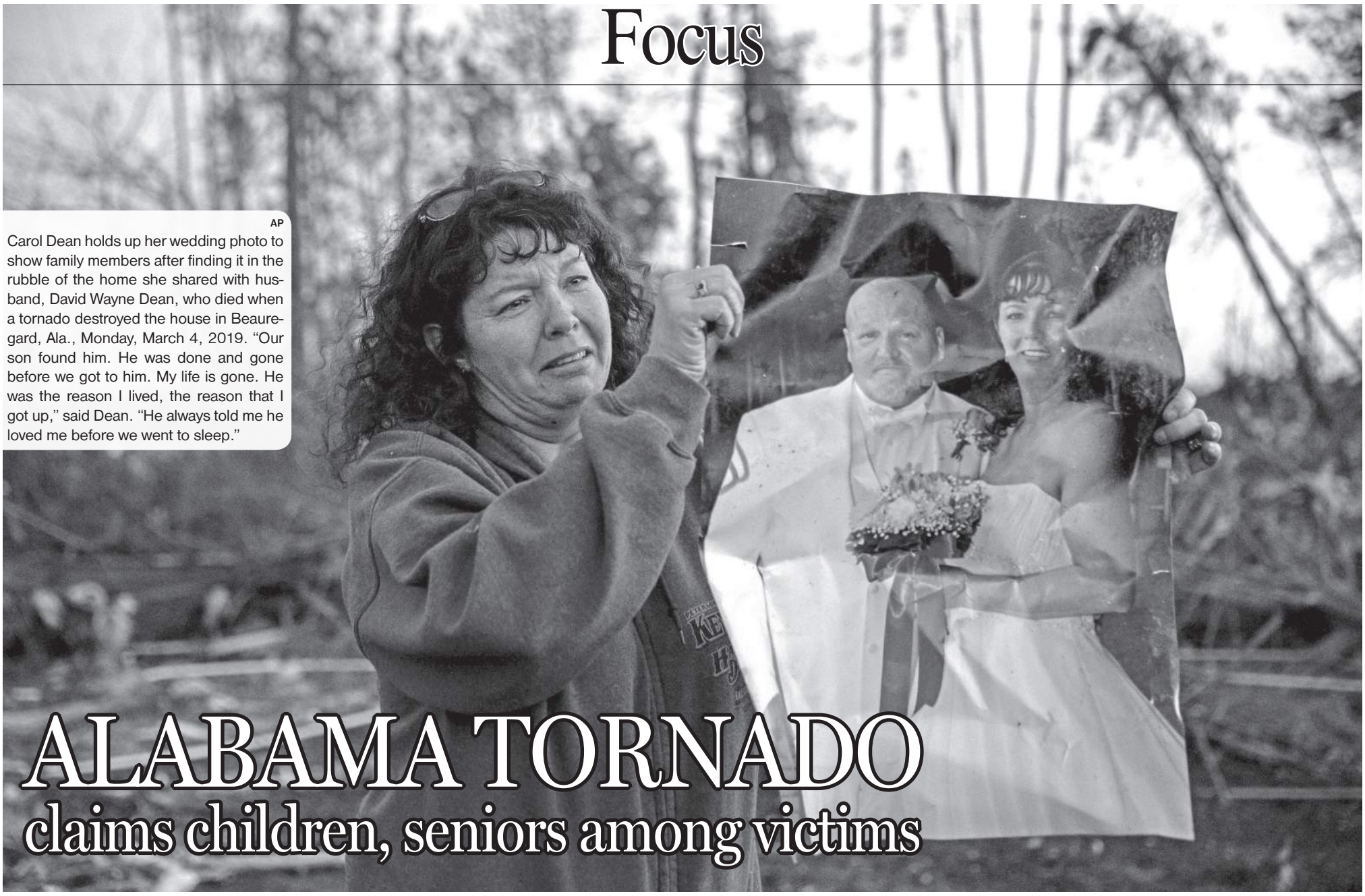
Government cuts to local budgets also mean there are fewer youth programs and after-school activities and worse mental health services for young people in many areas.

"Of course there's a link between youth centers having massive cuts, mental health services having massive cuts, schools having massive cuts, children's services having massive cuts and young people having less constructive things to do," said London Mayor Sadiq Khan, a member of the opposition Labour Party.

"The government needs to wake up, reverse these cuts to our police—but also our preventative services too," he told Sky News.

The government denies austerity is to blame. May insisted Monday there was "no direct correlation between certain crimes and police numbers."

Focus



AP

Carol Dean holds up her wedding photo to show family members after finding it in the rubble of the home she shared with husband, David Wayne Dean, who died when a tornado destroyed the house in Beauregard, Ala., Monday, March 4, 2019. "Our son found him. He was done and gone before we got to him. My life is gone. He was the reason I lived, the reason that I got up," said Dean. "He always told me he loved me before we went to sleep."

ALABAMA TORNADO
claims children, seniors among victims

BEAUREGARD, Ala. (AP)—At least 23 people, ranging from 6 to 89 years old, died Sunday when a massive tornado slammed into the small community of Beauregard, Alabama. Here are some of their stories:

SHEILA CREECH and MARSHAL LYNN GRIMES

Sheila Creech, 59, had been staying at companion Marshal Lynn Grimes' home in Alabama while damage from Hurricane Michael was being repaired at her Panama City Beach, Florida, apartment building, her granddaughter said.

Creech and Grimes, also 59, had a long, sometimes tumultuous history, granddaughter Desteni Clifton told the Montgomery Advertiser .

As a young couple, they had two children together, before moving on to new relationships and having more children with other partners, Clifton said.

Two years ago, the internet brought Creech and Grimes back together. They rekindled their romance, even planning marriage.

They had been camping over the weekend, bringing along Taylor Thornton, a friend of Grimes' 11-year-old daughter, Clifton said.

"I guess they maybe didn't hear the sirens, or if they did, it was too late for them to get anywhere safe," Clifton said. "It was a total surprise. She was very young and so was he."

Grimes' daughter broke both her legs when the tornado hit, Clifton said.

DAVID WAYNE DEAN

David Wayne Dean, 53, was known as "Roaddog" to his friends for his love of Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

"He loved his Harley. Until I come into the picture, that was his baby," wife Carol Dean said.

She was at work when the tornado hit. Dean was in their mobile home, texting a friend to beware the storm approaching the Alabama-Georgia line. His body was found on the other side of an embankment in the neighbor's yard.

"Our son found him," Carol Dean said between sobs Monday. "He was done and gone before we got to him. My life is gone. He was the reason I lived, the reason that I got up."

The metal base of their trailer was bent into a U shape around a tree, she said.

She found her wedding dress amid the wreckage, and a Father's Day note to her husband reading, "Daddy, I love you to pieces."

"He was a wonderful man, a loving, giving man. He took life by the reins and rode," Carol Dean said.

ARMANDO "AJ" HERNANDEZ JR.

An energetic 6-year-old, Armando Hernandez Jr. was known to everyone as "AJ."

"He was always happy. Every time you see him, he was smiling. He was very loving," uncle Jack Crisp said.

Crisp said his brother hunkered down in a closet with AJ and his 10-year-old son, Jordan, as the tornado struck.

"He had them squeezed tight and he said when it came through, it just took them. It just demolished the house and took them," Crisp said.

Authorities found AJ's body. His brother and father remained hospitalized Monday in stable condition.

EMMANUEL, JIMMY LEE and MARY LOUISE JONES

Jackie Jones got worried when she saw television reports that said the worst of Sunday's storm was passing close to the Beauregard house where her parents and two brothers lived.

"I decided I'd call down to the house, and I didn't get no answer," she said. "The phone just rang and rang and rang."

That left her unsettled and she called her other siblings to say she feared something was wrong.

She was right. Her parents' house had been sheared down to its foundation. Her parents, 83-year-old Mary Louise and 89-year-old Jimmy Lee Jones, and her brother, 53-year-old Emmanuel Jones, were dead.

Another brother also living in the home, 56-year-old Benjamin Jones, survived.

Mary Louise and Jimmy Lee were "ordinary folks" who had been married more than 60 years and had worked on a farm when they were younger, Jackie Jones said.

They enjoyed sitting on their front porch, talking about "the olden days and how they were raised," she said. Her mother also taught Sunday school for decades.

Her younger brother, Emmanuel, did yard work for neighbors and enjoyed watching football and basketball, especially University of Alabama teams.

Jackie Jones said she hoped to find her mother's photo albums amid the wreckage, because she does not have any pictures of her parents or brother.

HENRY LEWIS, FLOREL and ERIC JAMAL STENSON

A niece remembered Henry Lewis Stenson, 65, and wife Florel Stenson, 63, as "the sweetest people."

"They dated through high school, got married—the sweetest, loving people that you could know—a very good family," said Katrena Coleman Turner, of Huntsville.

"Uncle Henry was the go-to man. Whatever you needed, you'd call him, he'd come running," she said.

Turner said her uncle, aunt and cousin Eric Jamal Stenson, 38, were all killed when their mobile home in Opelika was destroyed by the tornado.

Turner said she called her mother —Henry Stenson's sister— and other relatives to check on them when she heard about the storm. A cousin later called to tell her they had been killed.

"A family member who was out looking for them found them. He found all three of them dead," she said.

Terry Tate, Florel Stenson's brother, said Eric Stenson was with his two teenage sons visiting his parents when the storm hit. Eric and his parents were killed; the boys, ages 14 and 17, were injured but survived, Tate said.

All five family members were thrown from the house, which was ripped apart by the force of the storm.

"Words cannot describe the disruption that happened through here," Tate said.

TAYLOR THORNTON

Ten-year-old Taylor Thornton was among four young children killed by the tornado, authorities said.

The fourth-grade girl who loved to ride horses was as "innocent as she could be," her mother, Ashley Thornton, said in a WSFA-TV report . "No mean bone in her body whatsoever."

Taylor had been camping with a friend over the weekend, and she was still at the other girl's Beauregard home when the tornado hit.

Her father rushed to the scene when there was no word from Taylor. He found only his daughter's friend and tried to comfort her.

"He said there was nothing left," Ashley Thornton said.

Despite pressure from deputies, David Thornton refused to leave until his daughter was found, his wife said.

"He said, 'The only way I am leaving is with her,'" Ashley said. "He carried her out from where she was at."

MAMIE ROBERTS KOON

Sixty-eight-year-old tornado victim Mamie Roberts Koon loved her grandchildren, her daughter said.

Melissa Hussey told the Associated Press on Tuesday that her family is "devastated" by the news of her mother's death.

"She was loved by everyone and she will be missed," said Hussey, who lives in Columbus, Georgia.

Hussey said she and her brother each have children, all of whom Koon adored. She said Koon was from Phenix City, Alabama, and was a retired former ABC liquor store employee.

Hussey said the fact that corporations have offered to pay the funeral costs for all 23 victims is a big help.

"That'll take a load off the family," she said.

Environment

The massive glacier that formed the Great Lakes is disappearing —and greenhouse gases are to blame for its untimely demise

A stone wall separates street level and a downslope to Glencoe Beach on Feb. 9, 2019, in Glencoe, Ill. The bluff overlooking Lake Michigan at Glencoe Beach is a land formation from the last ice age when glaciers deposited soil at the end of their reach.
AP

From a boardwalk overlooking Chicago's deserted Ohio Street Beach in the throes of winter, it's not hard to imagine the last ice age. A blanket of fresh snow covers the shoreline and pale blue ice glazes over Lake Michigan as far as the eye can see.

But this is nothing. Twenty thousand years ago, Chicago was encased in ice roughly 3,000 feet thick—twice the height of Willis Tower.

All that's left of the colossal ice sheet that sprawled over much of North America and formed the Great Lakes is a kernel of ice in the Canadian Arctic—and it's dwindling fast.

Today, the Barnes Ice Cap, a glacier about the size of Delaware on Baffin Island in Canada, is the last remnant of the mighty Laurentide Ice Sheet. But after 2,000 years of stability, the ice cap is expected to vanish in the next 300 years as an unparalleled rise in heat-trapping greenhouse gases has brought on an alarming rate of melting since the 1960s.

Scientists say the warmth of the past century exceeds any in the last 115,000 years, and perhaps even longer, according to a study published in January.

"If the Barnes Ice Cap has almost never disappeared in 2.5 million years, and it's disappearing now, then it's giving us the context that it's warm as it's ever been in the last 2.5 million years," said Gifford Miller, a professor of geological sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder and a researcher who has extensively studied the ice cap on Baffin Island.

The ice cap's improbable end is hardly a global concern by itself, but it could be a harbinger of what lies ahead for other massive ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica, scientists say. While the Great Lakes provided a catchall for glacial meltwater, elsewhere these thawing ice sheets could send a deluge of freshwater into the oceans, contributing to sea level rise and possibly disrupting ocean currents.

In the 2.5 million years that the Earth's climate moved between ice ages and milder periods, the Laurentide Ice Sheet expanded and retreated, shaping modern day existence in the Midwest.

It tilled what would become among the most fertile soils in the world for farmers. It altered the course of the Mississippi River, the country's largest river that shapes contemporary state lines from Wisconsin to Louisiana. And it carved out the basins of the Great Lakes, leaving behind the planet's largest system of freshwater as it melted and withdrew back to the Arctic.

"It's something you don't even think about," said Richard Berg, the director of the Illinois State Geological Survey. "But when cities were founded on it, when your food depended on it, and when glacial deposits provide a lot of the water we drink—essentially our whole lives are tied to this legacy landscape from glaciation."

Before glaciers arrived in the Midwest, Illinois was a rugged place characterized by steep hills, bluffs and deep valleys. But glaciers smoothed over most of the state, giving it its trademark flat horizon.

Each ice age, glaciers acted as a giant pestle on Illinois' landscape, pulverizing rock and prehistoric plants into the fertile soils that the Midwest is known for. Only two areas are untouched by glaciers: a pocket in the far northwest corner in the Galena area and the region south of Carbondale. There, the topography, still punctuated by jagged cliffs and lowlands, is vastly different from the rest of the state.

"Glaciers are the great homogenizer," Berg said. "You can imagine this giant sheet of ice picking up rocks, sand and sediment, and just grinding them up like the rock crushing that goes on in a factory."

The ancient Mississippi River once ran through Illinois, flowing as far east as Hennepin. But when a towering ice shelf protruded into its path, the river was diverted further west to its present-day track. When glaciers left, their meltwater filled the Mississippi River's prehistoric course, forming the Illinois River.

As each great lobe of ice plunged into Middle America, it was rebuffed by Michigan's hard, granitic rock and limestone, but gouged out the softer sediment of the present day Great Lakes.

"Over 2.5 million years, it keeps occupying its favorite spots," Miller said. "It liked flowing through Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. The Great Lakes are the legacy on the landscape of the erosive power of these giant ice sheets."

Similar to a bulldozer, the ice sheet scooped out sediment and deposited it at the edge of its reach, forming subtle, arc-shaped formations known as end moraines in Illinois. These ridges, up to 100 feet high and five miles wide, mark the furthest reach of these massive sheets from at least six glacial periods.

Today, cities like Urbana and Champaign are formed on top of understated rolling hills. Perhaps, the last of these ridges formed the southern lip of Lake Michigan.

Seth Stein, professor of geological sciences at Northwestern University, takes his students to the North Shore to teach them about this history, which fashioned the bluff overlooking Glencoe Beach, the streams that carved out the picturesque ravines along Sheridan Road in Winnetka and the fifth largest lake in the world.

"You stand on campus and look out on Lake Michigan, and that's a product of global warming—one that's not produced by humans, it's purely natural—but it's definitely a product of global warming," Stein said.

Scientists say the Earth transitions between ice ages and warmer periods as its orbit around the sun changes over time. The Earth also experiences long-term variation in its wobble and tilt, which determines how much of the sun's energy reaches the planet.

But scientists say these cycles—which operate over tens of thousands of years—can't explain the current global warming trend for two reasons: the rate of temperature rise is too fast; and the Arctic is warming despite the Earth slowly drifting away from the sun during the Northern Hemisphere summer.

The Arctic is warming faster than anywhere else on the planet as the spike in heat-trapping gases has led to the disappearance of sea ice, which acts as a cooling agent by reflecting away sunlight. Some scientists believe warmer Arctic air temperatures are leaving the region more vulnerable to incoming warm air masses that are thinning glaciers. The polar vortex, the swirl of cold air that sits atop the North Pole, is prone to destabilizing and spilling into areas like the Midwest as the Arctic warms.

In examining the perimeters of 30 quickly melting glaciers on Baffin Island between 2009 and 2015, Miller and a team of researchers discovered places that had been blanketed in ice for more than 40,000 years are now exposed.

Unlike many glaciers that have survived in colder mountainous regions, the Barnes Ice Cap sits much lower on a stony, tundra plateau. But the 1,600-feet thick glacier has used its own height to sustain itself for much of its existence.

"It's really a true anomaly out there," Miller said. "It's like its own little mountain and it creates its own climate system there, because it's colder as you go up in altitude and it also gets more snow. But as it's melting and lowering, that ability to get more snow is weakening."

"If it ever disappeared, it would never be able to grow back again."

In the past decade, the snowfall that frosts the top of the Barnes rarely lasts as the ice cap loses about 1 foot of height each year at its highest elevations and 3 feet near the margins, according to Miller. And streams of melting water run from its peak down to the lakes that have formed near its base.

If greenhouse gases continue to rise at their current pace, the glacier is expected to disappear around 2300.

Though the glacier will contribute little to sea level rise, scientists are more concerned about its much larger neighbor 500 miles east. The Greenland ice sheet, one of the biggest contributors to rising seas, released the equivalent of 240 million Olympic-size swimming pools into the ocean in 2012, according to a study published in December.

Researchers estimate global sea levels would rise about 20 feet if the ice sheet melted entirely.

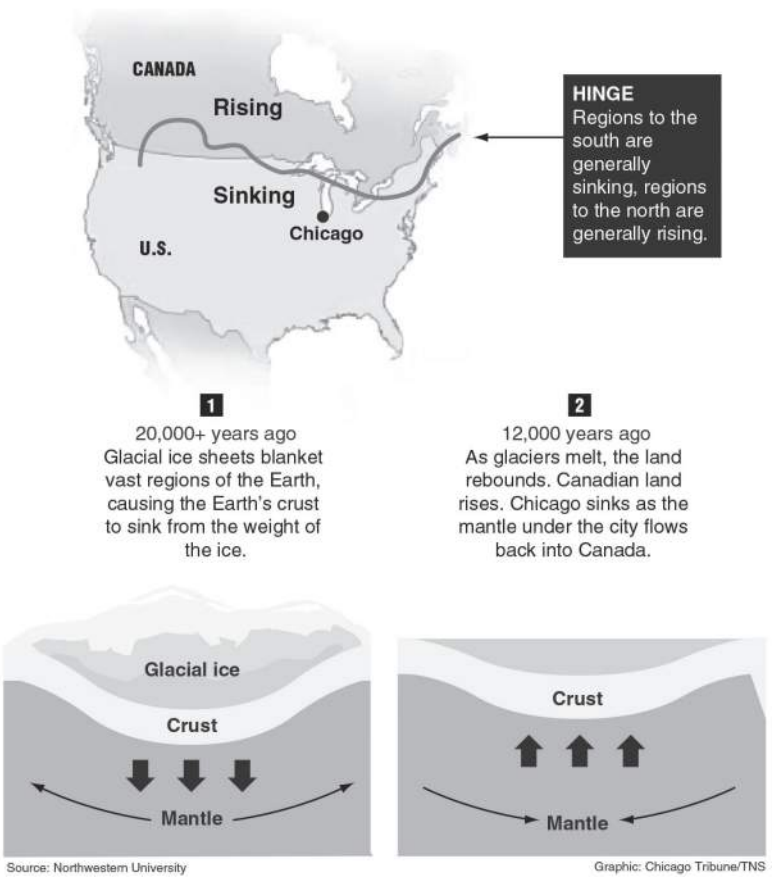
At the South Pole, ice shelves the size of states are breaking away and becoming giant ice bergs that could dwindle and contribute to higher tides.

As more land near the poles is uncovered each year from these enormous slabs of ice, scientists say the story is a familiar one. A land smoothed by ice. Freshwater searching for a home. And an unfamiliar warmth waiting on the next ice age. In the future, perhaps the landscape of the North and South poles will resemble that of the Midwest.

"We know what can happen after the recession of the ice sheet," said Berg, the Illinois geological survey director. "Greenland and Antarctica, they are modern day analogues of what happened here in Illinois."

Canada rising, Chicago sinking

More than 20,000 years ago, the weight of glacial ice sheets created depressions in the Earth. As the ice melted, land returned to its original shape, forcing some areas to sink and others to rise.


CANADA
Rising
Sinking
Chicago
U.S.
HINGE
Regions to the south are generally sinking, regions to the north are generally rising.
1
20,000+ years ago
Glacial ice sheets blanket vast regions of the Earth, causing the Earth's crust to sink from the weight of the ice.
2
12,000 years ago
As glaciers melt, the land rebounds. Canadian land rises. Chicago sinks as the mantle under the city flows back into Canada.
Glacial ice
Crust
Mantle
Crust
Mantle

Source: Northwestern University

Graphic: Chicago Tribune/TNS

Life & Style

Clash of 'Jeopardy!' titans ends with $1 million runaway win

By LYNN ELBER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The first-ever "Jeopardy!" team championship came down to a clash of the titans, Ken Jennings vs. Brad Rutter.

With $1 million at stake, a big Daily Double bet by Rutter positioned his team for a runaway victory as the quiz show's "All-Star Games" ended Tuesday.

Rutter and teammates Larissa Kelly and David Madden split the top prize, with Jennings, Matt Jackson and Monica Thieu sharing $300,000. Colby Burnett, Pam Mueller and Alan Lin took third place and $100,000 on the show hosted by Alex Trebek.

Rutter entered the contest as the top winner on any game show with a haul of $4.3 million in regular and tournament "Jeopardy!" play. Jennings was a 74-game winner and top moneymaker in the quiz show's non-tournament competition with $2.5 million.

"To see it come down to the two heavyweights was the perfect culmination of it," Madden said in an interview. "It certainly did not disappoint in terms of the quality of play, and we just got lucky that Brad pulled the Daily Doubles when needed and had a great round."

"Ken played great, too, as did Team Colby," he said, graciously.

For his part, team captain Rutter was happy to share the credit with Madden and Kelly.

"The money is great, but these champs aren't here for the money. They're here for the glory," he said. "I wanted to bring it home for my team, because they worked so hard and prepared so well and played so well."

A daring $10,000 bet by Rutter ended up making the contest a lock, Kelly said. A history buff, Rutter said he felt confident enough about the category, Colonial America, to go big. (He knew which war Britain's 1764 Sugar Act was intended to retroactively pay for. If the answer doesn't spring to mind, here's a refresher .)

"Brad and I have probably played against each other more than any two other people in 'Jeopardy!' history, but it's never enough for me," Jennings said in a statement. "On the one hand, I'm thinking, 'Just once, can somebody take this guy out in the semis?' But on the other hand, you want to see how you stack up against the best talent available."

Kelly called Rutter's performance "incredible to watch." It also made easy work for her in the final round of "Jeopardy!" as she faced a question about Constitutional amendments.

"I was assuming I would have to get it right, and it turned out it didn't matter at all. I was totally in a no-pressure situation," she said, happily.

Italy: X-ray shows self-portrait under Gentileschi painting

ROME (AP)—A painting by Italian artist Artemisia Gentileschi has been found hidden beneath another of the Baroque master's work, the Uffizi Galleries in Florence said.

Infrared, ultraviolet and X-ray analyses of a piece in the Italian museum's collection, "St. Catherine of Alexandria", revealed the partial self-portrait Gentileschi laid on the canvas first, the museum said.

The Uffizi said this week the examination strongly indicates that to realize her vision of the saint, the painter combined details from the self-portrait with ones from a portrait of a noblewoman, the Grand Duke Ferdinando de' Medici's daughter Caterina.

The Florence museum said the imaging "revealed a pre-existing version of 'St. Catherine" beneath the painted surface, sporting a turban instead of a crown" and with the saint facing the observer instead of looking to heaven, as in the final version.

On the long-hidden painting there is also a "mysterious little face on the left-side of St. Catherine's own face, a feature totally out of context with respect to both the finished work and the earlier version" underneath, the museum said Monday.

Experts theorized that the face might have been an early sketch for a totally different project that the artist set aside. They also think she re-used a canvas to save on materials.

The self-portrait is "virtually identical" to another Gentileschi painting of St. Catherine acquired by the National Gallery in London, the Uffizi said.

The Uffizi said restoration experts saw the increasable similarity when they superimposed the images of the newly discovered work and the London museum's piece.

An admirer of Caravaggio, Gentileschi won rare success as a woman in the male-dominated 17th-century art world. She frequently depicted strong female heroines.

First lady prods media to cover opioids as much as 'gossip'

LAS VEGAS (AP)—First lady Melania Trump prodded the news media on Tuesday to spend as much time highlighting the opioid epidemic at it devotes to "idle gossip or trivial stories."

Mrs. Trump said she wished the media would talk about the epidemic more "and educate more children, also adults, parents, about the opioid crisis that we have in United States." She spoke during a town hall-style discussion in Las Vegas about the epidemic that claimed nearly 48,000 American lives in 2017. "They do it already, but I think not enough."

The first lady suggested the epidemic should be leading the news when host Eric Bolling—who addressed her as "Lady M"—asked what else the media could do.

"I think it should be on every media and the front pages of the newspapers, and I'm sure a lot of people would follow and go home and talk with the children and educate them so they are responsible adults, and they show them how drugs can be dangerous," she said. Her audience of several hundred people, including entertainer Wayne Newton, was seated in a theater where Elvis Presley once performed at the Westgate hotel and casino.

Mrs. Trump used the event to close a two-day, three-state promotional tour for her "Be Best" initiative, which includes a focus on babies born dependent on opioids. Bolling, a former Fox News host, lost his only child, 19-year-old son Eric Chase, to an accidental drug overdose in September 2017.

During remarks before she answered questions from Bolling, the first lady encouraged the public to look beyond the raw numbers and see the opioid crisis as a "human story."

Swedish Academy to announce 2 Nobel literature prizes in Oct

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)—The foundation behind the Nobel Prize in literature said Tuesday the winners of the 2019 and the delayed 2018 editions of the prestigious award will both be announced in October by the Swedish Academy, saying that the scandal-rocked body has revamped itself and restored trust.

The Nobel Foundation had warned that another group could be picked to award the prize if the academy did not improve its tarnished image.

The foundation said it "believes that the steps that the Swedish Academy has taken and intends to take will create good opportunities for restoring trust in the academy as a prize-awarding institution," according to a statement.

It said "several important changes" have been made, including making it possible for members to resign, the election of new members, and the departure of another academy member, meaning that "the academy no longer includes any members who are subject to conflict of interest or criminal investigations."

The foundation said "it will take time to fully restore confidence," but added: "The prerequisites for this are now good."

The literature prize was canceled last year after a mass exodus at the exclusive Swedish Academy following sex abuse allegations. Jean-Claude Arnault, husband of a former academy member, was convicted last year for two rapes in 2011. Arnault allegedly also leaked the name of Nobel Prize literature winners seven times.

The academy announced May 4 that the prize would be not awarded in 2018 "in view of the currently diminished academy and the reduced public confidence." It was the first time since wartime 1943 that the prestigious award was not handed out.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

†Martina Itibus Roligat Olopai

Nov 11, 1952 - March 2, 2019

In her new life, she now joins her:

Husband: †Francisco M. Olopai
Son: †Simeon Kono R. Olopai
Parents / Step Dad: †Jesus A. Roligat
†Maria "Coco" I. Roligat
†Calistro K. Ruben
Parents In-Law: †Simeon I. Olopai
†Josepha Lisaschighimal M. Olopai
Brothers / Sisters: †Matilde R. Limes
†Merced R. Limes
†Pedro " Nonito" I. Roligat
†Estanislao I. Roligat
†Regina I. Roligat
Brothers / Sisters In-Law:
†Sophia Olopai Towai
†Olympia Saralu
†Jesus A. Limes
†Juan Canisio Limes
†Nicanor Cabrera

Nightly Rosary is being prayed at Olopai's residence at 7:30pm. On Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 3:00pm, her remains will be escorted from CHCC morgue to her residence in Koblerville. Rosary will be prayed at 7:30pm, followed by the Responso at 8:00pm.

Funeral Service will be held on Monday, March 11, 2019. Her remains will be escorted from her residence to Mount Carmel Cathedral at 10:30am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am, followed by the Interment Services at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Children/Spouse, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren:
Frank Jr. Olopai/Mary (Francisco, Marlena), Memorina O. Christian/Kasimiro Christian (Kimo/Zasha [Francisco A. Olopai]), Magdalena O. Tito/Wilfred Tito (Torina Olopai Tito), Javier R. Olopai / Ersina O. Olopai (Erjay, Simeon Kono, Samantha Mae, Jayda Kayna), Josepha R. Olopai/ Christopher San Nicolas (Dion O. San Nicolas)

Reared Son: Robert Tamangided

Brothers, Sisters / Spouse and Children:
†Matilde R. Limes / †Juan Canisio Limes & Children
†Merced R. Limes / †Jesus A. Limes & Children
†Pedro "Nonito" Roligat / Marina & Children
Concepcion R. Cabrera / †Nicanor Cabrera & Children
Regina Lourdes Roligat / Kasimiro & Children
†Estanislao Roligat & Daughter
Daniel Roligat / Jessica & Children

Brothers / Sisters In Law & Children
†Sophia O Towai / Koro Towai & Children
†Olympia S. Saralu / Simeon Saralu & Children
Lino M. Olopai / †Visitacion Olopai & Children
Faustino M. Olopai / Jean B Olopai & Children
Juan M. Olopai & Children

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated. Thank You – Si yu'us Ma'ase – Olomwaay

The Family

Forbes names Kylie Jenner youngest self-made billionaire

NEW YORK (AP)—Move over Mark Zuckerberg. At 21, Kylie Jenner has been named the youngest-ever, self-made billionaire by Forbes magazine.

Forbes estimated that Jenner's Kylie Cosmetics is worth at least $900 million, and she owns it all. She hits the billion-dollar mark when you add in cash she has already pulled from the profitable business, the magazine said.

Jenner

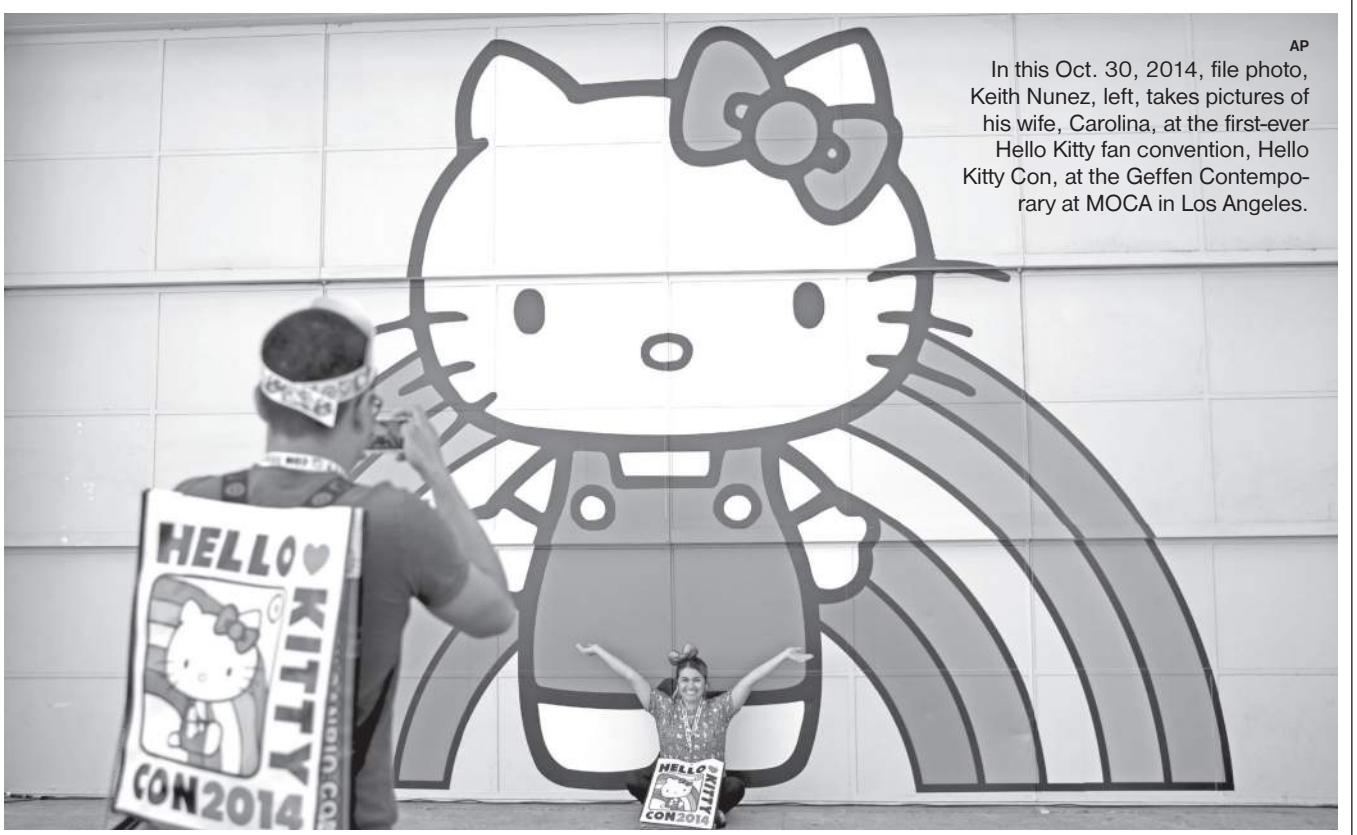
Facebook's Zuckerberg was 23 when he hit the big B mark.

Jenner told Forbes the milestone is a "nice pat on the back."

Detractors have wondered as the Jenner-Kardashian sibling climbed her way to a billionaire exactly what Forbes means by "self-made." Her family, after all, is rich and famous. Her mom, Kris Jenner, helped build her business.

Forbes says as long as she didn't inherit a business or money, she's labeled self-made.

Hello Kitty to make her big screen debut



AP
In this Oct. 30, 2014, file photo, Keith Nunez, left, takes pictures of his wife, Carolina, at the first-ever Hello Kitty fan convention, Hello Kitty Con, at the Geffen Contemporary at MOCA in Los Angeles.

NEW YORK (AP)—Hello Kitty might not have a mouth but she's got a movie deal.

Warner Bros.' New Line Cinema announced Tuesday that it has acquired film rights to Hello Kitty from the Japanese corporation Sanrio. The 45-year-old iconic feline has never been turned into a movie despite its merchandising ubiquity.

New Line said it will quickly begin work on a script to put a film into production. Sanrio also granted film rights to other characters including Gudetama, My Melody and Little Twin Stars.

Warner Bros. has had success with toy adaptations before, including "The Lego Movie." That film's sequel, however, has underperformed at the box office since opening last month.

Hello Kitty presents potentially steeper challengers, though. She doesn't talk or, for the most part, change facial expressions.

Palace gala marks 50 years since Prince Charles' investiture

LONDON (AP)—Britain's senior royals have gathered to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the investiture of Prince Charles as the Prince of Wales.

The gala event at Buckingham Palace was hosted Tuesday by Queen Elizabeth II.

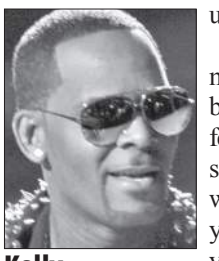
Charles was joined by his wife, Camilla, his two sons, Prince William and Prince Harry, and their wives, Kate and Meghan.

The 70-year-old Charles was formally invested with the title Prince of Wales at a ceremony at Caernarfon Castle by his mother, the queen, in 1969.

The investiture regalia he wore that day was on display at the celebration.

R. Kelly tells CBS 'I didn't do this stuff' in interview

CHICAGO (AP)—In his first interview since being charged with sexually abusing four people, including three underage girls, R. Kelly says he "didn't do this stuff" and he's fighting for his life.


Kelly

The R&B singer, out on bail after his Feb. 22 arrest in Chicago, gave the interview to Gayle King of "CBS This Morning," with excerpts airing Tuesday night. More of the interview will air Wednesday and Thursday on "CBS This Morning."

In an excerpt, Kelly tells King that rumors of him having sex with and abusing underage girls are, "Not true.

"Whether they're old rumors, new rumors, future rumors, not true," Kelly said.

When King asked Kelly if he has held women against their will, he replied "That's stupid!"

CBS News National Correspondent Jericka Duncan said on "CBS Evening News" Tuesday the entire interview was about an hour and 20 minutes long.

"Use your common sense. Forget the blogs, forget how you feel about me," Kelly said. "Hate me if you want to, love me if you want. But just use your common sense. How stupid would it be for me, with my crazy past and what I've been through—oh right now I just think I need to be a monster, and hold girls against their will, chain them up in my basement, and don't let them eat, and don't let them out."

When King persisted in questioning, Kelly angrily responded, "Stop it. You don't quit playing! Quit playing! I didn't do this stuff! This is not me!"

He broke down in tears as he hit his hands together and says, "I'm fighting for my (expletive) life."

CBS also plans to air interviews with two women who are currently living with Kelly, including one whose parents say she is being held against her will.

3 Quebec radio stations stop playing Michael Jackson songs

MONTREAL (AP)—Three major Montreal radio stations have stopped playing Michael Jackson songs as a result of child-molestation allegations against the late musician that aired Sunday in an HBO documentary.

A spokeswoman for the owner of the French-language stations CKOI and Rythme and the English-language The Beat says Jackson's music was pulled starting Monday morning.

Cogeco spokeswoman Christine Dicaire says the action is a response to listener reactions to the documentary.

She added that the decision will also apply to Cogeco Media stations in smaller markets in Quebec. The company operates 23 radio stations.

The documentary "Leaving Neverland" began airing on HBO Sunday. It details the abuse allegations of two men who had previously denied Jackson molested them and actually supported him to authorities.

Man keeps romance under wraps because of age gap

DEAR ABBY: I am a 30-year-old divorced male. I suffered from a stroke six months ago and have paralysis on one side of my body. After rehab, I returned home able to walk with a cane.

I have started texting a beautiful divorced woman. She lives next door, and we have been friends for more than six years. I don't know her age, but she's at least eight years older than I am. She has been visiting me frequently, and we have recently started holding hands while talking and exchanging hugs and kisses. My family is unaware of this.

Honestly, it has been a while since I have been in a relationship, and I want to pursue this new opportunity. But I don't know how to do it without causing problems with my family because they might think it is a forbidden relationship due to the big age gap between us. What should I do?

READY AGAIN IN THE WEST

DEAR READY: At your age, the age difference is not important. Could your worries be based upon some feeling of guilt? If that's the case, my advice is to live the rest of your life as fully and happily as possible. Your neighbor is an adult; so are you. Let this relationship evolve naturally and see where it leads. And if it leads to something permanent, do not apologize to anyone for wanting to be happy.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a woman in prison for embezzlement. I was sentenced a year ago. My problem is my fiance. He's constantly saying that when I am released in 2 1/2 years, we are going to have a serious talk about the reasons why I did the crime. I have told him repeatedly that once I walk out of the prison gates, I won't want to discuss the reasons that put me here. I just want to put this horrible experience behind me.

I know this has been difficult for him, and he wants answers. How can I get him to understand that I will have paid my debt to society and just want to focus on the future when the time comes for my release?

IMPRISONED IN VIRGINIA

DEAR IMPRISONED: I have an idea. Discuss your reasons for having committed embezzlement with your fiance NOW, before your sentence is up. He has proved his love by sticking with you, but if he is going to marry you, he deserves some honest answers. Although you may wish to close the gates behind you on this chapter of your life, that you are a convicted felon may have a negative impact when you re-enter the job market after your release, and you should be prepared for it.

DEAR ABBY: Some time ago, my husband developed a foot condition and was advised by his physician to wear white socks. The condition has subsided, but he insists on wearing white socks as a preventative measure because the condition was painful. Regardless of how he dresses, he wears them, and has been questioned about it when he wears a dark suit. Is it acceptable for him to attempt to prevent a recurrence of an uncomfortable ailment? Or should he follow the protocol of dress?

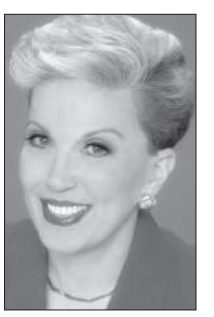
PRACTICAL OR FASHIONABLE?

DEAR P OR F: It seems to me that your husband has a solid medical reason for wearing the socks he chooses. Suggest that he buy some SHORT white socks, and when "protocol" requires it, wear dark socks over them. However, if he refuses, then protocol be darned. (Like the socks!)

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

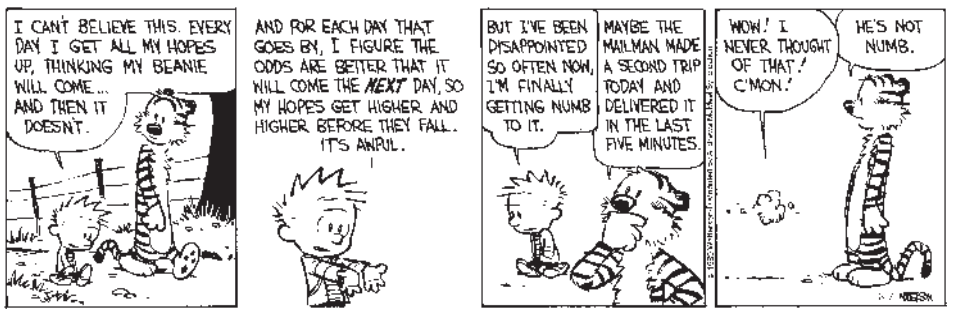


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS. EVERY DAY I GET ALL MY HOPES UP, THINKING MY BEANIE WILL COME... AND THEN IT DOESN'T.
AND FOR EACH DAY THAT GOES BY, I FIGURE THE ODDS ARE BETTER THAT IT WILL COME THE NEXT DAY, SO MY HOPES GET HIGHER AND HIGHER BEFORE THEY FALL. IT'S AWFUL.
BUT I'VE BEEN DISAPPOINTED SO OFTEN NOW, I'M FINALLY GETTING NUMB TO IT.
MAYBE THE MAILMAN MADE A SECOND TRIP TODAY AND DELIVERED IT IN THE LAST FIVE MINUTES.
WOW! I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! C'MON!
HE'S NOT NUMB.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT IF I GOT SINGING LESSONS?
WE COULD TRY THAT, BUT...
WHAT? BUT WHAT?
YOUR SINGING... IT'S... JUST CAUSE YOU GIVE A GOLDFISH TENNIS LESSONS DOESN'T MEAN...
LET'S STOP THERE, SHALL WE?
OKAY. BUT IT'S A FUN MENTAL IMAGE, RIGHT?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Kitten's cry
4 Opera set in Egypt
8 Garden intruder
12 Eggs
13 Some deer
14 — -bitty
15 Containers for laundering
17 Appease
18 "So there!"
19 Pittsburgh pro
21 Emphasize
24 Droop
25 Chop
26 Pirate's potation
28 Yokels
32 "I've Got — in Kalamazoo"
34 Pinnacle
36 "— come back now, hear?"
37 Trifled (with)
39 PC alternative
41 Roman 151
42 "— the season ..."
44 NASA vehicle
46 Critic's essays
50 Part of DJIA
51 Send forth
52 Give a faded look to, as jeans
56 Lettuce variety
57 Think (over)
58 HBO rival
59 Sheltered
60 Between jobs
61 Layer

DOWN

1 Trim the grass
2 Actress Longoria
3 Remove by cleaning
4 Tennis legend Ashe
5 Debtor's note
6 Society newbies
7 Admin. aides
8 Know-it-all
9 And others (Lat.)
10 Diminutive suffix
11 Color worker
16 Dinner for Dobbin
20 Corn spike
21 Excellent, in slang
22 Toy block name
23 Place
27 May honoree
29 Aftermath
30 Vogue rival
31 Thin cut
33 Beatles classic
35 Standard
38 Conk out
40 Pamper
43 Sage
45 Farm female
46 Country's McEntire
47 Actor Jannings
48 Unspoken feeling
49 Gulf War missile
53 Unwell
54 Yon maiden
55 Sweetie

Solution time: 24 mins.

H	J	E		D	A	V	Y		P	I	T	A
A	L	L		E	D	A	M		I	D	O	_
G	A	L		C	A	L	C	U	L	A	T	E
S	N	A	I	L			A	N	C			
			P	A	D	S		D	L	B	A	I
C	A	L	C	A	I	C	S		P	I	N	K
A	B	E		C	S	T	C		C	T	E	
R	C	V	S		C	A	L	A	B	R	I	A
S	T	Y	L	E		T	A	S	E			
			U	M	A			Y	E	N	T	A
C	A	L	R		P	K	E	N		A	P	K
A	S	A	P		B	O	L	O		P	O	I
D	I	P	S		S	N	O	W		A	Y	N

Yesterday's answer 3-7

1	2	3	■	4	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12			■	13				■	14			
15			16					■	17			
■	■	18			■	19		20				
21	22				23	■	24			■	■	■
25			■	26		27	■	28		29	30	31
32			33	■	34		35	■	36			
37				38	■	39		40	■	41		
■	■	■	42		43	■	44		45			
46	47	48				49	■	50			■	■
51				■	52		53				54	55
56				■	57				■	58		
59				■	60				■	61		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Giselle Eisenberg, 12; Jenna Fischer, 45; Rachel Weisz, 49; Bryan Cranston, 63.

Happy Birthday: Keep life simple, and live within your means. Refuse to let temptation take hold of you and lead you into something you cannot afford to be a part of mentally, physically or financially. Choose what's safe and secure and will bring you peace of mind. Be a leader, not a follower, and set your own pace and goals. Your numbers are 3, 11, 14, 25, 33, 36, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Review your plans carefully before you make a move. A risk will turn into a regret. Talk to someone with more experience to see if you can find a way to get what you want by taking a safer route. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Moderation and common sense will work wonders when you are trying to flesh out an idea. How you present what you are trying to achieve will make a difference. Intelligence and charm will drum up interest and support. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Choose your playmates carefully. If you are susceptible to compliments and the power of persuasion, you will end up getting involved in something that will lead to emotional or financial loss. Avoid indulgent behavior and people who are poor influences. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Don't shy away if there is something you want. Your memory will serve you well when talking to someone who is exaggerating or trying to convince you of something. Trust your judgment, and follow your instincts. A partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't take a chance with your health, love life or relationships with your peers or business partners. Keep your life simple; concentrate on personal improvements and sticking to a budget. Do your best to keep the peace. 3 stars

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* You can make worthwhile changes without going overboard. Channel your energy into the changes you want to make or into something you want to learn. Greater involvement in social activities or networking will lead to new opportunities. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Bypass drama and head toward people and events that are happy and more interested in intellectual discussions than heated debates. Physical improvements can be made that will make your life better and encourage romance. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Look at options, and consider the best way to proceed. Dig in, but if you overdo it, injury or getting worn out is likely to prevail. Consider how best to manage your time and energy before heading down a difficult path. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You'll face opposition if you exaggerate, use emotional tactics or pressure others to do things your way. Physical improvements or inner growth will lead to greater self-awareness and personal realization that will help you move forward without interference. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Interacting with friends, relatives and people who can help you make positive changes will lead to new beginnings. Make sure you get your facts straight and you don't reveal information that could make you or someone close to you look bad. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Take it easy; if you try to fit too much into your day, mishaps will occur. A steady, even pace and a well-thought-out plan will allow you to make adjustments along the way. Leave nothing to chance. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* An emotional matter will surface. Consider your options and choose the one that will cost you the least. Being smart will lead to peace of mind. Don't allow anyone to tamper with your heart, your money or your future. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are persuasive, upbeat and insightful. You are understanding and helpful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	3			5		4		
			4	9		8		7
4						2	6	
	8							1
	3						9	
2							7	
	9	4						2
3		1		6	8			
	5		2			7		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

5	1	8	7	4	9	3	6	2
6	2	7	1	8	3	9	4	5
4	3	9	6	5	2	8	1	7
1	7	2	9	6	8	4	5	3
3	8	6	5	2	4	7	9	1
9	4	5	3	1	7	2	8	6
2	9	1	8	7	5	6	3	4
8	6	4	2	3	1	5	7	9
7	5	3	4	9	6	1	2	8

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

APOTHECARIES — Solution: 12 letters

M	W	D	R	U	G	S	S	U	R	G	E	O	N	N
A	E	R	A	P	L	D	T	S	E	G	N	I	O	E
R	I	A	O	D	P	A	N	R	S	B	A	L	S	G
M	G	G	T	O	H	H	U	A	C	A	Y	E	I	N
S	H	E	S	C	T	G	A	D	H	B	R	R	O	I
I	L	D	E	S	I	D	A	R	A	E	J	G	P	Ⓑ
L	E	L	R	K	V	P	E	B	M	R	T	A	P	Ⓘ
A	Z	I	U	I	I	T	O	E	O	A	I	S	R	Ⓝ
B	A	H	C	N	A	O	D	M	M	T	C	U	A	Ⓢ
R	H	E	T	I	K	Y	I	O	I	I	K	I	M	P
E	H	A	L	S	I	S	A	B	L	N	N	C	S	O
H	C	T	U	D	T	G	U	I	L	D	E	T	I	T
E	T	O	N	A	G	I	N	S	E	N	G	R	N	S
A	I	R	E	I	H	G	I	L	A	E	T	N	A	D
L	W	K	P	R	O	F	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	L

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as $15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

- 3-Liner **$15**
- 5-Liner **$24**

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 01-2019

Opening date: March 04, 2019 Closing date: March 22, 2019

Positions:
(4) ARFF Trainee (Saipan)
(1) Equipment Operator-I (Saipan)
(1) Custodial-I (Saipan)
(3) Ports Police Officer-I (Saipan)
(1) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Rota)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport is no later than **5:00 pm on Friday, March 22, 2019**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp or hrspecialist@cpa.gov.mp by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School
Is requesting applicants for:

(2) Child Development Center/ Pre-School Teachers

- Minimum two years experience working with young children in a school setting (18 months through 4 years of age)
- Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts degree
- CPR/First Aid Certified
- Knowledge of child development and curriculum
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures

(1) Maintenance Supervisor

- Minimum two years of general maintenance experience and supervision
- Knowledge of plumbing, electrical, building construction, and general maintenance
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Send resumes to: **Saipan SDA School Principal**
P.O. Box 501063 Saipan MP 96950
principal@saipansdaschool.org

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Accountant

Qualifications: Must be a College Degree with at least five year experience in General Accounting. Must be knowledgeable in the preparation of Financial Statements. Must be knowledgeable in Peach Tree and be able to work flexible hours. Salary will be based on qualifications and experience beginning at $700.00/semi-monthly. Interested applicants are requested to fill up the company's application form and submit with a copy of Driver's License at our office in Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Ground Floor no later than March 15, 2018.

JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc.
dba: Kinpachi Japanese Restaurant
Kinpachi BBQ Garden Restaurant

Assistant Manager (1): Be able to assist the general manager in the supervision of business establishment to ensure the restaurant & stores efficiency & profitable operations; work closely with the personnel in preparation & processing of reservations, greets & answers customers inquiry, patrons complaints & resolve problems. Prepare advertising campaigns of the restaurant & stores to attract customers. Assist in doing daily inventory of foods, merchandise and assets of the business. Duties include but are not limited to delegating authority & assigning responsibilities, reviewing financial transactions & monitoring budget limitations, & be able to present written & oral reports on the company's financial & operational status. Must have Japanese oral skills & knowledge of Japanese food products.

Restaurant Supervisor (2): Must be qualified in restaurant operations, customer service, menu planning, & reservation operations. Must be responsible for the supervision of staff as to dining areas cleanliness in appearance & outside grounds. Ensure any customers issues are addressed immediately and resolved in a manner which exceeds the customer's expectation. Also need to have basic Japanese oral skills. Must have an extensive knowledge of Japanese food products & be able to make orders & preparations.

Accountant (1): Efficient in handling financial records, statements & reports. Analyze financial information & prepare entries to accounts such as general ledgers. Reports & records daily transactions, do filing & bookkeeping. Prepare financial statements, taxes, bank deposits balance sheets, profit & loss statements & other reports. Petty cash custodian, maintain inventory records. Estimates purchasing costs & requisitions of merchandise, items needed in the store, rest. & building maintenance or purchase merchandise, items to be sold or use.

Restaurant Waitress (1): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Cook (4): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

General Maintenance (3): Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing , repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including holidays, weekends and night time schedules.

Applicants of all positions listed above **except Restaurant Waitress (1-3 months work experience)** are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience.

Application by phone call will not be accepted.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered.
Interested applicants must apply in person; applications can be picked up at MISA Building Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

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For opportunities contact us at 235-6397

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Please call 235-NEWS

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Aquaville

(1) Manager
At Least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Marketing Strategies
and oversee new trends in marine sports.

(1) Motor Boat Mechanic
At least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Mechanical Job

Contact Person: Adonis I. Santos
Contact Number: 323-2916

GANA CORPORATION
dba GANA DAYCARE

(8) Teachers
- Food Handlers Certificate
- CPR Certified
- Education background (College Diploma)
- At least 3-6 years experience
- 40 hours training per year

Please call 989-4972
Email resume to limjs5223@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

SURROGATES

If you are female between the ages of 21 and 40, have had at least one natural child birth, and are interested in learning more about being a surrogate, please call Evelyn @ 287-7338. Compensation is $25,000 - $35,000. Can also receive $500 for referral of qualified candidate.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

AM MACHINE SHOP

is in need of:
(5) MACHINIST
At least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in fabrication
and modifying parts

(2) CAR AIRCON TECHNICIAN
At least 3 years experience

(2) WELDER
At least 3 years experience

Contact Person: Adonis I. Santos
Contact Number: 322-0102

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

AUTO MARINE INC.

is in need of:
(1) Diesel Engine Mechanic
At least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Diesel Engines
(2) Motor Boat Mechanic
At least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Mechanical Job
(1) Carpenter
(1) Maintenance Repairer
(1) Accountant
At least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Preparing
Financial Status of the company

Contact Person: Adonis I. Santos
Contact Number: 323-2916

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Macs Marine

is in need of:
(1) Commercial Diver
At least 3 years experience
in Scuba Diving

(1) Motor Boat Mechanic
At least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable
in Mechanical Job

Contact Person: Adonis I. Santos
Contact Number: 323-2916

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude.
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) AIR CONDITIONING MECHANIC
Minimum of four (4) years of relevant work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ASSISTANT RESERVATIONS MANAGER
Minimum of one (1) year experience working in Room Reservations for a hotel and three (3) years of related managerial experience and degree in hotel/hospitality management or equivalent preferred. Must be proficient with hotel Property Management System (Micros Opera), Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel. Has experience with Vision Reports. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Minimum of six (6) years Human Resources manager experience and three (3) years of supervisory experience in the human resources field. A four-year bachelor's degree or eight years of equivalent experience is required. Responsible in administering policies, programs and practices, including planning, organizing ,developing, implementing, coordinating and directing. Formulate policies and procedures for the HR department and recommending policies and practices to management. Must be proficient in Microsoft word, excel, power point and HR software. Must have a thorough understanding of the Immigration Law, EEOC, ADA, FLSA, CNMI and Federal law and other applicable laws. Must be proficient in the process of CW-1 Only Transitional Program and other qualifying employment Visa's. Ability to handle and resolve conflicts, making decisions and solving problems including negotiating skills. Handles personnel recruitment, selection, training, compensation and benefits, performance appraisals and labor relations. Prepare and review payroll analysis, involved in strategic budget planning, disciplinary and staffing concerns. Ability to speak, read, write, comprehend and communicate in English. Must be able to work weekdays, weekends, evenings and holidays.

(1) EXECUTIVE HOUSEKEEPER
Minimum of five (5) years housekeeping manager experience required (minimum 300-room hotel). Motivated self-starter with the ability to manage all functions related to the cleanliness of the hotel including guest rooms, pubic areas, and back-of house non-kitchen areas and to ensure the smooth and efficient running of the Laundry Department within the Rooms Division. Monitors the facility to ensure that it remains safe, secure, and well-maintained. Prepare and review financial budget, operational reports, and schedules to ensure accuracy and efficiency including monitoring time control. Set goals and deadlines for the department. Acquire, distribute, and store supplies. Must be able to work graveyard shifts/weekends/holidays.

(1) FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR
Minimum of two (2) years previous experience as a Front Desk Supervisor is required. Must be resourceful, take ownership of problems and issues that arise, and have excellent problem-solving skills. Must have the ability to work well under pressure and to lead a team. In addition to managing the daily operations at the desk, must have the ability to provide the Front Desk Clerks with necessary training and support. Fluency in Korean, Japanese, Chinese or Russian is preferred. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) FRONT DESK TEAM LEADER
One (1) year previous experience as a Front Desk Team Leader. Must be detailed-oriented, self-driven, dependable, ability to work well under pressure and assist Front Desk Supervisor to lead a team. Assist in managing the daily operations at the desk, assist in providing necessary training and support. Fluency in Korean, Japanese, Chinese or Russian is preferred. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) RESERVATIONS SUPERVISOR
Minimum of one (1) year experience working in Rooms Reservations for a hotel. Must be resourceful, take ownership of problems and issues that arise, and have excellent problem-solving skills. Must have ability to work well under pressure and lead a team. Must be able to use hotel PMS (Micros Opera), MS Office and Excel. Must have experience with Vision Reports. A High School Diploma or higher is required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Thursday, March 21, 2019.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance.
Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WESTERN SALES TRADING COMPANY
has openings for:

One (1) Sales Manager
Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with a major in Business Administration, Accounting or Management (may be foreign equivalent) and two (2) years of experience as a wholesale sales manager or distributer manager.
Duties: Reports directly to CEO or his designate. Manages and directs the company's day-to-day sales, marketing, and distribution operations. Assists corporate officers in planning, formulating, and implementing periodic modifications to the company's sales goals, marketing strategies, merchandising policies, and operational procedures. Manages and directs the company's sales and marketing in conformity and consistent with the company's sales policies and marketing strategies, monitors overall sales and marketing activities and manages contractual arrangements for import of merchandise, and manages inventory. Manages and monitors sales and marketing activities, sales reports, and other performance data to measure productivity, goal achievement, identify deficiencies, and implements corrective measures to ensure sales and profit targets are met while providing high-quality service to customers. Monitors compliance with company's operational budget, overall profitability of the company, and oversees compliance with legal requirements for its operations. Manages the stock and inventory requirements based on sales orders, inventory, and projected volume of sales. Supervises the purchase and procurement of merchandise, including import requirements with freight companies and government agencies. Assists the corporate officers with directing the development of new business prospects for the company, including conducting and overseeing feasibility analyses and cost assessments for expansion into new product lines and market areas, and directing the expansion of the company into viable new market. Manages the stock and inventory requirements based on sales orders, inventory, and projected volume of sales. Supervises the purchase and procurement of merchandise, including import requirements with freight companies and government agencies. Manages assembly and storing of products by workers, filling of orders, and distribution to customers according to sales orders. Prepares sales related personnel's work schedules, manages and directs their activities, provides staff training, and has authority to make recommendations regarding hiring, firing, and other personnel actions. Oversees various independent contractors and agents retained by the company to assist with its operations, such as shipping agents, transportation companies, and service contractors. Recommends overall sales and marketing plans for review and approval by CEO or his designee and implements/executes duly approved sales and marketing plans. Performs other managerial duties as may be assigned by CEO or his designee.

One (1) Senior Wholesale Sales Representative
Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in Marketing (may be foreign educational equivalent) and two (2) years of experience as a Senior Wholesale Sales Representative, Sales and Marketing Representative, or Sales Representative for wholesaler.
Duties: Sells and markets company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Contacts regular and prospective retail merchants to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Answers customers' questions about products, prices, availability and product uses. Displays and/or demonstrates products and recommends products that meet customers' needs. Quotes prices, credit terms and delivery dates for purchase of company's products. Prepares and signs order forms and sales contracts, and collects payments from customers. Arranges for and delivers products to customers and ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Contacts customers after sales of merchandise to resolve any problems and provide on-going support. Plans, assembles and stocks product displays in retail stores or make recommendations to retailers regarding product displays and promotional programs. Assists Marketing Manager in identifying prospective customers, monitoring market conditions and monitoring competitors' products and prices.

One (1) Senior Sales and Marketing Representative
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree (may be foreign educational equivalent) and two years of experience as a Sales and Marketing Representative for a wholesale company with a minimum of 550 sales items.
Duties: Sells and markets company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Contacts regular and prospective customers to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Displays and/or demonstrates products and suggests products that meet customers' needs. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts. May sign purchase orders, and collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers. Assists Sales Manager in identifying prospective customers, monitoring market conditions and monitoring competitors' products and prices.

One (1) Wholesale Sales Representative
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree (any major and may be foreign educational equivalent) and two (2) years of experience as Wholesale Sales Representative or Sales Representative
Duties: Sells and markets company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Contacts regular and prospective retail merchants to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Displays and/or demonstrates products and recommends products that meet customers' needs. Answers customers' questions about products, prices, availability, and product uses. Quotes prices, credit terms, and delivery dates for purchase of company's products. Prepares and signs order forms and sales contracts, and collects payments from customers. Arranges for and delivers products to customers and ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Provides after sales support to resolve any problems and provide on-going support. Plans, assembles, stocks product displays in retail stores, checks stock levels, and makes recommendations to retailers regarding product displays, promotional programs, and reordering of merchandise.

One (1) Wholesale Marketing Representative
Minimum Qualifications: High School diploma (may be foreign educational equivalent) and two (2) years of experience as a Wholesale Marketing Representative or Sales Representative for Wholesaler.
Duties: Sells and markets company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Contacts regular retail merchants to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Studies market conditions and monitors competition to identify prospective customers. Displays and/or demonstrates products and recommends products that meet customers' needs. Answers customers' questions about products, prices, availability, and product uses. Quotes prices, credit terms, and delivery dates for purchase of company's products. Prepares and signs order forms and sales contracts, and collects payments from customers. Delivers products to customers and ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Provides after sales support to resolve any problems and provide on-going support. Plans, assembles, stocks product displays in retail stores, checks stock levels, and makes recommendations to retailers regarding product displays, promotional programs, and reordering of merchandise. Performs other related duties.

Two (2) Sales Representative
Minimum Qualifications: Associates degree (may be foreign equivalent) and two (2) years of experience as a sales representative for a wholesale company with a minimum of 550 sales items.
Duties: Sells company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Meets with customers in order to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts and may collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers.

Two (2) Product Demonstrator
Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma (may be foreign equivalent) and one (1) year of experience as a product demonstrator or merchandiser/product demonstrator.
Duties: Conducts product demonstrations, explains products to customers, and assists company in implementing advertising activities for company's products. Sets up props, demonstrates materials and supplies, arranges displays or demonstration areas for prospective customers, and assists in running sales promotions. Transports, assembles, and disassembles materials used in presentations. Prepares or alters presentation contents to target specific audiences. Prepares products and gives samples to customers to try/test. Provides product information and suggests specific product purchases to meet customers' needs, and assists in implementing advertising activities for the company's products. Sells products being promoted, delivers product to customers, and keeps records of sales. Contacts salesmen to replenish merchandise and re-stock store shelves to replenish products sold following product merchandising procedures. Performs other related duties.

One (1) Sales Consultant
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree in marketing or marketing management (may be foreign educational equivalent) and two (2) years of experience as a Sales Consultant.
Duties: Sells and markets company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Contacts regular and prospective customers to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Displays and/or demonstrates products and suggests products that meet customers' needs. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts. May sign purchase orders and collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers. May do deliveries of merchandise to Customers when exigencies and circumstances require. Consults with customers after sale of products to resolve any issues and provide continuing support. Assists management in identifying prospective customers and monitoring competitors' products and prices. Performs other related duties.

One (1) Bookkeeper
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree in Business Administration (any major) or Associate's degree in Accounting (degrees may be foreign equivalent), two (2) years of experience as bookkeeper, and one (1) year experience using QuickBooks or other accounting software program(s).
Duties: Records company's wholesale business transactions and retains all accounting records. Posts, verifies and reconciles accounts payables, accounts receivables, expenses, payroll and other ledger accounts. Prepares preliminary financial reports by collecting, analyzing and summarizing account information. Prepares payroll and payroll taxes and distributions to government. Prepares gross receipts tax returns. Documents business transactions and verifies purchase orders and other financial transactions in order to substantiate the transactions prior to settlement. Maintains and reconciles bank accounts. Uses QuickBooks accounting software program in performing job duties.

One (1) Graphic Artist
Minimum Qualifications: High School diploma (may be foreign equivalent); four (4) years of experience as a graphic artist; and one (1) year experience using Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Indesign software programs.
Duties: Designs and creates visual products to meet company's promotional needs, including designing and creating promotional displays, marketing brochures, signs and signage systems, packaging, logos, menus, website development, and other visual products. Formulates visual marketing campaign and overall design concepts for company to reach target markets. Applies critical thinking and problem solving analysis to various design concepts and approaches that can be utilized to attain the desired effect on the target market. Creates innovative design solutions utilizing knowledge of graphic design theory and methodologies in conjunction with current cultural trends, market demographics, cultural preferences, and seasonal shifts to achieve optimum market response. Produces and coordinates the execution of mock-up and final graphic design and artwork for the visual products. Uses Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Indesign software programs in performing job duties.

One (1) Office Clerk
Minimum Qualifications: High School diploma (may be foreign educational equivalent) and one (1) year of experience as an office clerk or administrative assistant or High School diploma (may be foreign educational equivalent) and completion of one (1) year administrative assistant training program or computer training program. Six months of experience using Quickkbooks, Peachtree or other accounting software program.
Duties: Maintains and updates filing, inventory, and database systems using a personal computer. Reviews files, records, and other documents to obtain information to respond to requests. Compiles, sorts, and files records of office activities, business transactions, and other activities. Computes and records financial data and other information and perform basic bookkeeping. Operates office equipment and troubleshoot problems involving office equipment such as computer hardware and software, photocopiers and scanners, facsimile machines, voice mail systems, and personal computers. Performs related duties. Uses accounting software program in performing job duties.

One (1) General Maintenance and Repair Worker
Minimum Qualifications: One (1) year vocational certificate in building systems mechanics (any field and may be foreign equivalent) and two (2) years of experience as a building systems mechanic (any field).
Duties: Maintenance and overall upkeep of the civil structures of the warehouse and the company's buildings. Maintenance and repair of facilities' plumbing and sewer systems; air conditioning systems including installations and upgrades; electrical systems including new connections and upgrades; office equipment such as computers, tablets, printers, copiers and telephones; maintenance and upkeep of the refrigeration equipment such as commercial beverage coolers; vehicles; and auxiliary generators. Performs other related duties as assigned by supervisor.

One (1) Assistant General Maintenance and Repair Worker
Minimum Qualification: One (1) year vocational certificate in building systems mechanics (any field and may be foreign equivalent).
Duties: Maintenance and repair of facilities' building systems including, but not limited to, electrical systems, including new connections and upgrades; air conditioning systems, including installations and upgrades; office equipment such as computers, tablets, printers, copiers and telephones; and maintenance and upkeep of the refrigeration equipment such as commercial beverage coolers, vehicles, and auxiliary generators. Performs other related duties as assigned by supervisor.

One (1) Sales/Delivery Driver
Minimum Qualification: Two (2) years as a Sales/Delivery Driver or sales associate.
Duties: Sells and delivers company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Writes customer orders and sales contracts according to company guidelines. Collects money from customers, make change, and records transactions on customer receipts. Records sales and delivery information on daily sales or delivery record. Listens to and resolves customers' complaints regarding products.

One (1) Driver/Sales Worker
Minimum Qualification: Two (2) years of experience as a Driver/Sales Worker or Deliveryman.
Duties: Takes customer orders and relays to Accounting Office for invoicing according to company guidelines. Assists in loading merchandise, according to customer orders and invoices, to company vehicle for delivery. Delivers company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Collects money from customers, makes change, and records transactions on customers' receipts. Accounts for and remits collections to Accounting Office. Records sales and delivery information on daily sales or delivery records. Listens to and resolves customers' complaints regarding products. Performs other related duties.

If interested, send resume to Western Sales Trading Company by email to jtorres@six7one.com or by fax at 670-322-9408.
Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three (3) days of hire.

Harper discusses recruiting Trout to join Phillies

PHILADELPHIA—Bryce Harper signed a 13-year, $330 million contract with the Phillies. He's going to be in Philadelphia for a virtual eternity. There are young children who will someday be his teammates. But in the meantime, Harper has his sights set on forming a superteam in Philadelphia.

That would include longtime Philadelphia sports fan and baseball wondergod Mike Trout.

Trout won't be a free agent until after the 2020 season, but it's clear Harper is interested in recruiting the Angels star to Philadelphia. He admitted as much in an interview Tuesday on 94WIP with Jon Marks and Ike Reese.

Harper said he would let Mike Trout be Mike Trout during the season, but come 2020, it's go time for the recruitment.

"I think that's one thing about this contract that I'm able to do," Harper told the radio show. "Having 13 years in a place, I'm able to help recruit guys to this organization ... For me, I can be able to talk to Trout or whoever it is—big-name free agent or whoever—who wants to come to Philly or thinking about coming to Philly...

"And I don't think John's scared to go out and get the best guys that we need to have. I think it's respecting Mike Trout in a certain way during the season and letting him play and do the things he needs to do to of course to be Mike Trout. But if you don't think I'm not gonna call Mike Trout in 2020 to have him come to Philly, you're crazy."

AP

In this Wednesday, April 23, 2014 file photo, Los Angeles Angels'Mike Trout, left, and Washington Nationals' Bryce Harper, chat during a baseball game, in Washington.

Phillies fans will love to hear those kinds of remarks coming from their new superstar, but the Angels (and the league office) may have a different take.

Baseball's tampering rules are full of oddly worded jargon, but basically, Harper isn't supposed to talk about Mike Trout changing teams (even in a hypothetical sense) until Trout is no longer under contract with the Angels.

Last year, the Yankees' Aaron Judge received a strongly worded letter from the league for his comments about Manny Machado looking "good in pinstripes." Former Red Sox star David Ortiz also found himself in hot water for his 2016 comments about Edwin Encarnacion and the late Jose Fernandez.

Basically, if he's not your teammate, don't talk about him potentially being your teammate. That's a good rule to live by.

In Kansas City, the Royals and Salvador Perez didn't get good news on the six-time All-Star catcher's injured right elbow Tuesday.

Perez has a tear in his ulnar collateral ligament in his throwing elbow, the team announced, and he will undergo Tommy John surgery on Wednesday. He will miss the entire 2019 season.

The Royals had shut down Perez for four weeks this offseason when he developed soreness in his right elbow while working out. Perez had been preparing for the season with his teammates during spring training in Arizona until last Wednesday when he started to feel pain in his elbow again during batting practice.

Perez has been selected to each All-Star Game from 2013-18 and was the World Series MVP when the Royals beat the New York Mets in 2015.

Backup catchers Cam Gallagher (a right-handed hitter) and Meibrys Viloria (a left-handed hitter) are in line to be Perez's replacement in the Royals' lineup this season.

Meanwhile, New York Yankees ace Luis Severino will miss opening day because of an inflamed right shoulder that acted up while he was getting loose for his first spring training start.

Severino felt something wrong when he threw his first slider in the bullpen and was immediately scratched. He won't throw for two weeks, manager Aaron Boone said after a 5-1 win over Atlanta.

"Obviously, anytime a starting pitcher and a guy like Sevie walks off while he's warming up to start a game, you always get worried and concerned about that," Boone said. "But it sounds like the shoulder is pretty clean, it's just the inflammation issue. So if that's the case, then hopefully two weeks is something that will do the trick, then he can start ramping back up with his throwing program, but we'll re-evaluate it also at the same time."

Masahiro Tanaka, James Paxton, CC Sabathia and J.A. Happ are also projected to be in the Yankees' rotation. Luis Cessa, Jonathan Loaisiga and Domingo German are possible short-term replacements for Severino.

Dallas Keuchel and Gio Gonzalez remain available as free agents.

Severino agreed to a $40 million, four-year contract before this season.

The 25-year old right-hander is a two-time All-Star. He went 19-8 with a 3.39 ERA last year.

In Florida, pitcher Clay Buchholz and the Toronto Blue Jays have finalized a $3 million, one-year contract.

The 34-year-old right-hander is expected to join a starting rotation that includes Marcus Stroman and Aaron Sanchez.

Buchholz can earn $2.25 million in performance bonuses for innings: $125,000 each for 120 and 130; $250,000 apiece for 140, 150, 160 and 170, and $500,000 each for 180 and 190. He also can earn $500,000 for relief appearances: $50,000 each for 50 and 55, and $100,000 apiece for 60, 65, 70 and 75.

Buchholz signed with Kansas City late in spring training last year, was released on May 1 and signed with Arizona three days later. He made his first big league appearance on May 20 and was 7-2 with a 2.01 ERA in 16 starts and 98 1/3 innings. He strained the flexor tendon in his right elbow while warming up at Colorado on Sept. 13 and did not pitch again.

MLB near deal for rosters to expand to 26 in '20

NEW YORK (AP)—Major League Baseball and the players' union are near an agreement to expand active rosters by one to 26 starting in 2020 as part of a deal that would include a commitment to discuss larger economic issues after opening day this year.

As part of the deal, the active limit from Sept. 1 to the end of the season would be lowered from 40 to 28 beginning next year, people familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press. The people spoke on condition of anonymity because the agreement had not yet been finalized.

A limitation on September call-ups would end parades of relief pitchers that cause some games to stretch on.

There would be a maximum of 13 pitchers for most of the season and 14 from Sept. 1 on, the people said. The minimum roster size would increase from 24 to 25.

The new 26-player maximum also would apply to the postseason.

The commitment for a discussion of the larger economic issues is a key for the union after consecutive slow free-agent markets that have seen dozens of players sign on the eve of spring training and after workouts were underway. Players have proposed changes such as expanding the designated hitter to the National League and altering the amateur draft to discourage the number of teams jettisoning veterans during a season in favor of rebuilding.

Baseball's collective bargaining agreement is set to expire at the end of the 2021 season, and management appears willing to negotiate larger changes in exchange for a longer term.

The agreement also would include: increasing in the regular injured list minimum for pitchers and the minimum option recall time for pitchers from 10 to 15 days beginning in 2020; starting extra innings of the All-Star Game with a runner on second base; and giving MLB the right to shorten between-inning breaks.

The union planned to reject MLB's proposal for a three-batter minimum for pitchers, leaving MLB with the right to implement that unilaterally for 2020. Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred has said he is reluctant to change playing rules without an agreement with players.

MLB agreed not pursue a pitch clock through the 2021 season.

The roster deal is similar to one that had been slated to be included in the November 2016 collective bargaining agreement but came undone when the union backed away.

The roster size settled at 25 more than a century ago. Teams had 25 players active starting in 1913, according to Baseball Almanac, and since 1909, according to Peter Morris' "A Game of Inches." Morris wrote the limit was lowered during World War I, then reverted to 25, then cut to 23 in 1931 because of the depression. The maximum was waived at the end of World War II and again in 1949 because of players returning from the Mexican League, Morris wrote.

The 25 maximum through Aug. 31 has been a part of the collective bargaining agreement since the first labor deal in 1968. Teams have usually been at the maximum, except for the collusion era of 1986-89, when all clubs went with the 24-man minimum.

A 26th player has been allowed for some day-night doubleheaders since 2012. The expansion of the active roster to 40 each Sept. 1 led to complaints from teams and players that opponents were contesting games with unequal-sized squads based on how many minor leaguers had been called up.

Celtics hand Warriors worst home loss under Kerr

AP

Boston Celtics' Gordon Hayward, center, drives between Golden State Warriors' DeMarcus Cousins (0) and Stephen Curry during the second half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, March 5, 2019, in Oakland, Calif.

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Gordon Hayward scored 30 points off the bench, Kyrie Irving had 19 points and 11 assists, and the Boston Celtics ran away from the Golden State Warriors early on the way to a 128-95 win Tuesday night in a game that turned testy with the two-time defending champions down big.

DeMarcus Cousins and Terry Rozier received double technicals with 8:44 to play. Cousins was called for his fifth foul on a charge drawn by Aron Baynes, then the fiery Warriors center stood over Baynes in clear frustration. Jayson Tatum bumped Cousins with his right arm and Cousins pushed back with some force, then Rozier entered the fray and he and Cousins traded shoves.

Boogie's moment summed up an ugly evening of basketball by his team—and fans seeing their final season in the East Bay made a mad dash for the Oracle Arena exits in the closing minutes.

Stephen Curry provided a bright spot with 23 points and four 3-pointers on a night Splash Brother Klay Thompson sat out with soreness in his right knee.

Grizzlies 120, Trail Blazers 111

In Memphis, Mike Conley went scoreless in the first quarter, then carried the Memphis Grizzlies down the stretch against a team jockeying for playoff position in the Western Conference.

Conley scored 19 of his career-high 40 points in the fourth quarter as Memphis overtook the Portland Trail Blazers late for a victory.

Conley made six of his seven shots in the fourth, including all three 3-point attempts, as Memphis erased a nine-point Portland lead in the final quarter with a 38-25 scoring advantage in the period.

"It was a lot of fun," Conley said. "It was a weird game. Because I felt like I didn't play well at the beginning of the game. The whole team really didn't start well, and to end it the way that we did and for me to play like that in the second half was special."

For three-plus quarters it looked as if Portland would end its season-longest seven-game trip on a successful note. The Trail Blazers, who led by 16 in the first quarter, appeared headed to closing the trek with a 6-1 record because they held an 86-82 lead entering the fourth and stretched it to nine points with eight minutes left.

But Conley started his 19-point push with a 3-pointer. That began an 11-2 rally that pulled Memphis even at 96-all. After a couple of ties and trio of lead changes, Memphis pulled away down the stretch, a key basket coming on a 4-point play by Conley with 1:38 left.

Timberwolves 131, Thunder 120

In Minneapolis, Karl-Anthony Towns is putting up impressive offensive numbers. All he cares about, though, are wins.

Another huge night from Towns helped Minnesota snap a three-game losing streak. The star center had 41 points and 14 rebounds as the Timberwolves spoiled Paul George's return to the Oklahoma City lineup with a victory over the Thunder.

Towns has 182 points over his last five games, the best five-game stretch in team history. He fell one point shy of tying his season high.

"You can have all the numbers you want, but you don't ever want to be the guy that's getting good stats on a losing team," Towns said. "We've got to find ways to win. I'd rather have less stats and have more wins than to do what I've been doing recently."

Rockets 107, Raptors 95

In Toronto, James Harden scored 35 points, Gerald Green had 11 of his 18 in the fourth quarter and the Houston Rockets beat the Raptors.

Eric Gordon and Austin Rivers each scored 13 points as the Rockets won their sixth straight, matching a season high.

Kawhi Leonard scored 26 points and Serge Ibaka had 10 points and 15 rebounds for Toronto. Pascal Siakam had 17 points, and Danny Green 14 as the Raptors had their seven-game home winning streak snapped.

Harden, the NBA's leading scorer, made 12 of 30 shots, including three of nine from long range. He was perfect at the foul line, hitting all eight of his attempts.

Harden has scored 28 or more points in 39 straight games, the second-longest streak in NBA history. Wilt Chamberlain (71 games) holds the record.

76ers 114, Magic 106

In Philadelphia, JJ Redick hit six 3-pointers and scored 26 points to break out of a slump and lead Philadelphia over Orlando.

Redick was 5 of 6 from 3-point range in the first half (7 of 10 overall) and paced an offense that shot 64 percent in the half and led, 70-64. He had been seriously slumping—going 23 of 81 overall over his last seven games and hitting 15 3s. Redick had his first 20-point game since Feb. 10 against the Lakers.

Ben Simmons had 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Sixers.

Evan Fournier led the Magic with 25 points and Aaron Gordon had 24.

Pacers 105, Bulls 96

In Indianapolis, Bojan Bogdanovic scored 27 points, Darren Collison added 22 and Indiana beat Chicago.

Indiana was looking to build momentum heading into a crucial 11-game stretch during which the Pacers will play Oklahoma City and Denver twice each and visit Milwaukee, Golden State and Boston.

Chicago was led by Zach LaVine with 27 points. Robin Lopez had 20 points and 11 rebounds as the Bulls lost their fifth in a row to Indiana, including all four games this season. Lauri Markkanen finished with 14 points and 13 rebounds.

LeBron vows to play in Lakers' remaining games

LOS ANGELES—After Monday night's 113-105 loss to crosstown rivals the Los Angeles Clippers, the Los Angeles Lakers' chances of making the playoffs aren't looking good. Coach Luke Walton's team sits in 10th place in the Western Conference, 5 1/2 games behind the eighth-place San Antonio Spurs.

Despite the uphill battle ahead of them, star forward LeBron James insists he won't sit out any games for the remainder of the regular season.

"That would take a lot of convincing from Luke [Walton] on up," James told ESPN's Dave McMenamin. "Unless I'm hurt, I'm not sitting games."

James' absence from the court was especially felt at the beginning of the calendar year. The three-time champion suffered a left groin strain during the third quarter of the Lakers' Christmas Day victory against the Golden State Warriors. The injury sidelined him for 18 games, and the Lakers experienced a string of come-from-behind wins and heartbreaking losses.

In his first game back from injury on Jan. 31, James led his team to a 123-120 overtime victory against the Clippers. After the win, James emphasized how desperate he was to get back to playing to his full potential.

"I didn't come here to sit on the bench. I love clothes. I love suits. But I didn't come here to put on a suit every day. I came to put on a jersey," he said.

James also mentioned on Monday night that no one has spoken with him regarding the option to forgo playing in order to increase the Lakers' lottery chances in the upcoming draft.

"That conversation hasn't occurred, but I'm sure it can happen soon," the Ohio native said.

When asked what will be the catalyst behind finishing the remaining 18 games on a positive note, James noted his professionalism as the primary motive.

"For me personally, I can [only] speak for myself," the four-time NBA MVP explained. "Continue to be a professional, and be as great as you can be every single night, no matter the circumstances. 'Cause someone is always watching."

LeBron James finished Monday night's contest with 27 points, eight rebounds and six assists, playing a total of 42 minutes.

FIFA reserves soar to $2.7B, revenue at $6.4B

LONDON (AP)—FIFA's cash reserves soared to a record $2.74 billion and revenue climbed to $6.4 billion in the four-year period covering the 2018 World Cup, The Associated Press has learned.

The robust financial results suggest FIFA has weathered the deepest crisis in its history, which erupted in 2015 when a United States-led criminal investigation led to the arrests and later convictions of high-ranking officials on corruption charges. FIFA President Sepp Blatter also was deposed as FIFA president in a financial misconduct case that left the governing body's reputation in tatters and caused a backlash from sponsors.

After being elected as Blatter's successor in 2016, Gianni Infantino said that "FIFA was clinically dead as an organization." Although Infantino's leadership has come under criticism from within European governing body UEFA, Infantino will be able to show the budget is in a healthy state, and he is due to be re-elected unopposed in June for a four-year term.

The 2015-18 finances obtained by the AP exceed the forecasts presented to the FIFA Congress last June. While FIFA projected cash reserves to increase to $1.653 billion in the 2018 World Cup cycle, they had grown to $2.74 billion at the end of 2018, according to people with knowledge of the finances. The people spoke on condition of anonymity because the financial results remain confidential.

FIFA's reserves at the end of the 2014 World Cup cycle were $1.523 billion after generating $5.718 billion after the tournament in Brazil.

Amid of corruption crisis of 2015, FIFA modestly targeted raising $5 billion by the end of the Russia World Cup, a projection later raised to $6.1 billion. Those expectations were eclipsed when the four-year cycle ended with revenues of $6.4 billion, according to the people with knowledge of the financial report, which shows profit of around $1 billion.

The record revenue was achieved despite FIFA not filling its full slate of sponsors for the 2018 World Cup. Several sponsors did not renew after the 2014 tournament in Brazil.

Sheikh Salman Bin Ibrahim Al-Khalifa, an opponent of Infantino in the 2016 vote, had warned Infantino's plan to increase payouts to member associations would "bankrupt" FIFA, but that has not transpired.

In the 2011-14 World Cup cycle, FIFA's accounts showed just over $1 billion was spent overall on development projects with $538 million going to the Financial Assistance Programme for national associations and confederations.

AP

In this Sunday, July 15, 2018 file photo, Croatia's Ivan Perisic, second left, handles the ball to give away a penalty as he jumps for the ball with France's Blaise Matuidi during the final match at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow, Russia.

In the 2015-18 cycle, investment dedicated to FIFA's new Forward development program was $1.079 billion of which $832 million had been approved and committed to member associations, confederations or regions by the end of last year, according to a financial document seen by the AP. Between May 2016 and December 2018, 941 specific projects were funded in 179 of the 211 member associations at a cost of $270.3 million. There are a range of handouts: from $30,769 to train female football administrators in South Africa to $2.25 million on youth development in Peru.

FIFA proclaims it has far more rigorous system of financial controls designed to guard against further corruption scandals. FIFA rejected 201 of the 1,978 funding applications received in the four-year cycle.

FIFA is also trying to secure backing to expand the Club World Cup and develop a Global Nations League, a mini-World Cup for national teams, to further boost revenue. But Infantino's hopes of obtaining $25 billion in guaranteed finances from backers, including Japan's SoftBank, have stalled over European opposition to the formats and funding.

Even without that additional income, FIFA said in its financial report that the success of the 2018 World Cup has provided "strong financial resources" to enable it to raise Forward funds by $667 million to $1.746 billion in the 2019-22 cycle.

Each member association can apply for up to $6 million over the 2019-22 cycle, while each of the six confederations receives $48 million. In addition, $62 million is available for zonal or regional associations if they organize at least five youth and women's competitions per year.

News of the soaring FIFA reserves comes amid ongoing questions about the lack of parity for World Cup prize money between the men's and women's tournaments.

France earned $38 million from FIFA for winning the men's World Cup last July but the women's champion this July will earn $4 million. That is double the amount collected by the U.S. Soccer Federation in 2015, a rise in line with the overall prize money jumping to $30 million. The fund for the World Cup in Russia rose 12 percent to $400 million and that jumps to $440 million for the 2022 tournament in Qatar.

FIFA has acknowledged concerns of female players about the financial disparities while pointing to funding to grow the women's game.

"The vast majority of women's football players across the world are still amateur," Sarai Bareman, FIFA's chief women's football officer, said when the prize money for France was agreed last year. "That's the most important thing for us. If we want to build the whole ecosystem of the women's game it has to start there."

Infantino is costing FIFA less than his predecessor.

Infantino last year earned a salary of $1.9 million and a bonus of $550,000, according to one of the people with knowledge of the finances. Infantino earned $1.61 million in 2017 without a bonus.

Blatter's basic salary of $3 million in 2015 was topped up by an $11 million contractual bonus for the 2010 World Cup and $12 million for the 2014 edition. His contract included a $12 million performance bonus he would have earned had he completed a 2015-19 presidential term.

Players say Tiger 'overly cautious'

ORLANDO—Dark clouds rolled over central Florida on Tuesday, spitting out rain and spoiling the days of thousands trying to enjoy Walt Disney World Resort, the Happiest Place on Earth.

The mood wasn't much better down the highway at wet, chilly Bay Hill Club & Lodge as players prepped for the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by MasterCard.

But there was no doom and gloom despite the dreary weather and the unwelcome disturbance caused by Monday's withdrawal of Tiger Woods, who cited a neck strain as the reason he's bypassing an event he has won a record eight times.

While Woods' withdrawal sent shock waves through the golf world, there were no tremors at Bay Hill. Among the players, there was no fear that the injury-plagued Woods is facing a long-term issue, especially to his back, which has undergone four surgical procedures, the most recent in April 2017.

A long-term issue, after all, would jeopardize the money train Woods created since turning pro in 1996. As the top draw in the game, Woods is the transcendent athlete who has pulled in people of all stripes and built up TV ratings and the PGA Tour's coffers. He creates buzz and attention that no one else can muster.

Still, no player is holding his breath until they see a healthy Woods again. Not even defending champion and four-time major champion Rory McIlroy, who saw Woods receive treatment before and after each round two weeks ago at the WGC-Mexico Championship.

McIlroy also said Woods was wearing KT Tape on his upper back.

"He's jst being careful," McIlroy said.

That's what Woods told two-time major champion Zach Johnson in text messages Tuesday morning.

"I know that guy well enough to know this is something he's being overly cautious of, and he should be, because of what is on the table and what's ahead of him," Johnson said. "Rest will help, with the proper attention to go with that rest."

Johnson, who like Woods is 43, knows the day will come when Woods says adios. But that time isn't coming any time soon, Johnson said, and he expects to see the 14-time major champion at The Players.

"I might be gone before he's gone," Johnson said with a laugh. "But no, I don't think about what the game would be like when he leaves. Will it survive? Of course, it will. But we just know when he's around it's that much better."

Pat Perez agreed. He said Tiger doesn't move the needle, he is the needle.

"But we do have a lot of great players and great talent who will carry the Tour the same way when Jack (Nicklaus) left and Arnie (Palmer) left," Perez said.

Each of the reigning major champions is in the field—Patrick Reed (Masters), Francesco Molinari (British Open) and Brooks Koepka (U.S. Open and PGA Championship). Koepka tied for second last week in the Honda Classic.

World No. 2 Justin Rose is here, as is 2016 Palmer champion Jason Day and Bryson DeChambeau. So, too, is Rickie Fowler, who won the Waste Management Phoenix Open earlier this year and tied for second in the Honda Classic.

Two-time Masters champion Bubba Watson is in the field along with Hideki Matsuyama, Tommy Fleetwood and Ian Poulter.

Community braces for biggest Saipan Marathon

Organizers, volunteers, and the community are putting the final touches on the preparations for this Saturday's Saipan Marathon 2019—the largest since the event's inception.

"Since it's inception, we've seen the Saipan Marathon grow from a small event to one that has attracted over 1,000 runners from around the world this year. This is something we can all be proud of," Marianas Visitors Authority Community Projects Division manager Martin Duenas. "We're inviting everyone to take a few minutes from their day to make all our runners feel welcomed and cheer them on. Pull out the beach chairs and enjoy the race!"

The race will start in the wee hours of morning at 4:30am with the full marathon pack, followed by runners in the half marathon and 10K. Drivers are asked to exercise caution when on the race route Saturday morning.

"To beat the heat, our full marathon is starting before daybreak. This is actually normal for many marathons," Duenas said. "In this regard, we are asking drivers to drive carefully and follow all traffic officer directions along the route on Saturday morning to help ensure we give all our runners a safe and enjoyable race."

The route begins at American Memorial Park, heads north past the former Mariana Resort & Spa, returns south to Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and then heads north back to American Memorial Park. The outer southbound lane on Beach Road will be closed from American Memorial Park to PIC from 6am to approximately 9:30 am. Drivers are asked to take alternate routes during that time, if possible.

Duenas noted the important role the community plays in the success of the race. The Marianas' largest annual sporting and signature event of the MVA aimed at attracting visitors and international media coverage for the islands.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Ike Agulto, Isidoru Camacho, and Leroy Camacho of the Department of Public Works help clean the start and finish line area of the Saipan Marathon 2019, which will take place this Saturday.

Spectators can also keep their eyes open for participants in the Wacky Awards sponsored by The Athlete's Foot and All-Star Sporting Goods, which will award the best costumes, craziest hair, most awesome shoes, oldest shoes, and shortest shorts.

Dog owners are reminded to restrain their dogs for the safety of runners, as well.

Joining the MVA as exclusive sponsors of this year's marathon are Skechers, Powerade, and Northern Marianas Athletics. Platinum sponsors are IT&E, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Joint Marketing, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands. Gold sponsors are Fiest Resort & Spa, Royal Travel, Saipan Computer Services, Saipan Apparel, and T Galleria by DFS. Silver sponsors Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Deen International, The Athlete's Foot, Boarderline, All Star Sporting Goods, Skydive Saipan, Tokyo Jusen, Subway/Foremost/Coca-Cola, Joteten Shopping Center, Real Estate Transaction Specialist Igawa Office, and LJ's Lawn and Care.

Aid stations will be manned by Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Development Inc., Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Coca-Cola/Foremost, Pacific Islands Club, Imperial Pacific Int'l CNMI, IT&E, Aqua Resort Club, Kensington Hotel Saipan, Tasi Tours Transportation, Saipan World Resort, and Marianas Base Camp.

Supporting agencies and companies are American Memorial Park, Dept. of Public Safety, Dept. of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, Div. of Parks and Grounds, Dept. of Public Works, Dept. of Public Lands, Saipan Mayor's Office, Hawaiian Rock Products, and Marianas Health Services.

Saipan Marathon has been certified by the International Association of Athletic Federations and the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races, making it a qualifying race for the Boston Marathon.

For more information, visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or contact MVA Community Projects Division at 1-670-664-3210 or communityprojects@mymarianas.com. ***(PR)***

LEE

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a 2-0 record (pending results of yesterday's game against host Sri Lanka) to make it to the next round. Sri Lanka swept its first two assignments (versus Oman and Bahrain) and will dispute the No. 1 ranking in their group against Malaysia.

The two remaining squads after the single-elimination playoffs will earn tickets to the 2019 Asia/Oceania Qualifying Finals.

In the Junior Fed Cup, Pacific Oceania also barged into the playoff round after sweeping pool play, following a 3-0 win over Qatar in Group B. The Solomon Islands' Zorika Morgan and Fiji's Saoirse Breen defeated Dana Mohammed Al Mudahka, 6-2, 6-2, and Taima Zoheir Hassiba, 6-0, 6-2, respectively, to give Pacific Oceania the sure win. Breen also played in the doubles with Samoa's Eleanor Schuster and they overwhelmed Al Mudahka and Hassiba, 6-1, 6-0, to hand Pacific Oceania a 6-0 mark after the elimination round.

Pacific Oceania's foe in the first round of the playoffs has yet to be determined, as some teams were still playing their last pool play games yesterday and results of their matches were unavailable as off press time.

AYUYUS

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Cruz and Mustafa Augustino contributed 8 points apiece.

The Geckos drew contributions from the Sablan brothers, with Jason making two triples and netting 11 markers and J.P. bagging 9 and drilling one trey. Ron Muna provided 6 points off the bench, while combo guard Kuu Nishimura finished with 4.

With the win, Ayuyus now hold a 7-1 record and kept the No. 2 spot in the team standings behind Saipan Southern High School (7-0), while the Geckos absorbed their third loss in six games and backpedaled from fourth to fifth place.

Meanwhile, Saipan Southern dodged Grace Christian Academy's upset axe after pulling off a 44-37 at the Eagles court in Navy Hill.

The Manta Rays hope to extend their winning run to eight today when they face the equally hot Ayuyus at the Koblerville Gymnasium at 4:30pm.

In other results, Agape Christian School 1 rebounded from a tough loss last Tuesday after downing Mount Carmel School 2 at the Koblerville Gymnasium, 82-46.

The Torchbearers upped their record to 4-3 and overtook the Geckos for the No. 4 spot. The No. 7 MCS 2 fell to a 2-6 card.

Over at the Agape court in Gualo Rai, MCS 1 whipped Agape 2, 81-39.

MCS 1 boosted its record to 6-2 for the No. 3 spot in the rankings, while Agape 2 is still winless in eight games.

For today's matches, Agape and MCS will meet in the girls division, while the boys pairing will feature MCS 1 and Agape 1. Over at the Eagles court, GCA will face Agape 2, while MCS 2 and SIS will duel at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

SOUTHERN

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In the other division match, Mariana Castro delivered a pair of goals for Southern United with her first registered in the 29th minute and the second in the 57th.

Southern United will gun for win No. 2 this Saturday when it takes on Matansa at 5:30pm at Pitch 1, while over at Pitch 2, Kanoa will battle TanHoldings. In the last battle the division at 7pm, Paire will square off with MP United.

GIRLS U19
Southern 2, TanHoldings 0

Southern United was also triumphant in the futsal league at the TSL Sports Complex after topping TanHoldings last Friday.

Jerlyn Castillo handed Southern United its first goal after converting a penalty kick in the 42nd minute, while the other goal came seven minutes later, courtesy of Keisha Deleon Guerrero.

Kanoa 5, MP United 3

In the second game, Kanoa edged MP United.

Paulynn Joyce starred in Kanoa's win over MP United after firing four goals. She drew first blood for Kanoa in the 11th minute, while she delivered the team's last three goals, scoring in the 34th, 51st, and 54th minute for a come-from-behind win.

Kanoa was down at halftime, 2-3, after MP United had three players hitting the board. Guine Borja handed MP United its first goal right in the second minute, while Katrina Costales and Julianne Hall scored the final two in the 16th and 19th minute, respectively.

MP United then failed to cling to the shaky lead in the second half, as Joyce came to Kanoa's rescue.

After stealing one from MP United, Kanoa aims to make it two in a row when it duels TanHoldings this Friday at 6:40pm, while the former will meet Matansa in the curtain-raiser at 5:30pm.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Saipan Southern FC goalie leaps to deflect the ball during the second half of their girls U16 division game in the 2019 NMIFA Spring Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Harper discusses recruiting Trout to join Phillies

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Celtics hand Warriors worst home loss under Kerr

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Southern United, Kanoa win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Southern United Football Club and Kanoa FC got off to a good start after blanking their girls U16 opponents in the 2019 NMIFA Spring Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Kanoa dueled Paire FC at Pitch 1 and eased its way to a 5-0 victory, while Southern also shut down MP United FC at Pitch 2, 2-0. TanHoldings completed the division's opening week winners list after a free victory (via forfeiture) against Matansa FC.

Sharmaine Francisco powered Kanoa past Paire after making a hat trick. She drilled her goals in succession with the first one posted in the 20th minute and the last two in the 31st and 34th. Kanoa's two other goals came from Kialeen Leemarvin and Khristelle Itaas, who found the back of the net in the 59th and 61st minute, respectively.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kanoa Football Club's Paulynn Joyce, center, is up against two Paire FC defenders during the second half of their girls U16 division game in the 2019 NMIFA Spring Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

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Ayuyus outgun Geckos for seventh victory

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
pamintuanroby@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Kagman High School went all out in the second half en route to a 59-42 win over Saipan International School in the boys division game in the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Varsity Basketball League yesterday at the Geckos court in As Lito.

The Ayuyus exploded for 41 points in the third and fourth periods to foil the Geckos' hopes for an upset. Before Kagman's offensive outburst in the second half, SIS was able to keep up with the Ayuyus in the first two quarters, as the former led by only 7 at the break, 18-11.

However, as the game resumed, Kagman proved to be too much to handle for SIS, as the Ayuyus' physicality and dominance in the paint effectively powered them past the Geckos. Dean Blake anchored the Ayuyus' second half attack, scoring 10 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter. J.D. Magofna added 9 markers, while Jeremiah

See AYUYUS on Page 27

ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
Kagman High School's Peter Santos takes off for a point-blank shot during their game against Saipan International School in the CCOPSA caging yesterday at the Geckos court in As Lito.

Lee still perfect in Jr. Davis Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sean Lee continues to impress in his first appearance in the Junior Davis Cup, as he got another straight set victory in the Asia/Oceania Pre-Qualifying Event last Tuesday in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The CNMI player had a different doubles partner in Vanuatu's Clement Mainguy, but showed the same dominance that led to their 6-2, 6-1 win over Turkmenistan's Allanur Dayanjov and Serdar Vepamyrarov. Last Monday, Lee teamed up with Tahiti's Manovai Elie and they also swept Cambodia's Chaya Chhieu and Samnang Nel, 6-1, 6-2, to complete Pacific Oceania's 3-0 triumph in their first pool play assignment in Group A.

Pacific Oceania went on to complete the elimination with a perfect 6-0 record, as Elie and Mainguy also won their respective singles matches against Turkmenistan's bets. Elie played in the first singles game and topped Amir Bashimov, 7-5, 6-2, while Mainguy crushed Vepamyrarov, 6-0, 6-0.

With its unbeaten record, the No. 1 seed Pacific Oceania advanced to the playoff round and is likely to face Group C and No. 3 seed Lebanon in the quarterfinals. Lebanon lost to Singapore in the opener, 1-2, but avoided elimination after a 3-0 triumph over Saudi Arabia last Saturday.

In other results, Syria went 2-0 to march into the quarterfinals, leaving Vietnam and Bangladesh to dispute the remaining playoff berth in Group B. In Group D, Malaysia also had

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Sean Lee, seen here getting ready to return a shot during a local tournament, won his second doubles match in the Junior Davis Cup qualifier last Tuesday in Sri Lanka.